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MOSCOW CRITICIZES REAGAN ARMS INITIATIVE

Soltan Commentary

LD111446 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 11 May 82

[Yuriy Soltan commentary]

[Text] Washington and the NATO headquarters in Brussels are broadly advertising the American President's speech. At last Mr Reagan voiced readiness to resume strategic arms limitation talks with the Soviet Union, but even in Washington and Brussels the speech is seen as having been designed to create propaganda effect. A Brussels newspaper said the American President wanted to intercept the Soviet peace initiative and represent the United States as a peacemaker on the eve of the NATO summit to be held in June.

Politicians, military experts and observers are viewing President Reagan's proposals, which provide in very general terms for what may seem big cuts in strategic nuclear warheads, with a great degree of scepticism. The proposals are described as unrealistic and are therefore seen as another American attempt to secure military advantages to the detriment of the Soviet Union's security. The proposed cuts won't affect the American strategic arms determining the American strike capability. According to Mr Reagan's plan, at the first stage the number of American strategic bombers is not to be reduced at all, although the American strategic air force accounts for two-thirds of the U.S. nuclear potential. The United States has 570 strategic bombers, while the Soviet Union has 156. The American President proposed that the Soviet Union should dismantle the bulk of its land-based intercontinental missiles -- the backbone of its strategic forces -- while the United States will continue to install MX intercontinental missiles, deploy long-range cruise missiles on ships and aircraft and develop new generation nuclear arms.

One has every reason to agree with the former State Secretary Edmund Muskie, who said the President's proposals undermined the disarmament process and were a hopeless attempt to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union. Other American politicians, too, sharply criticise the President's speech: Senators Edward Kennedy and Gary Hart pointed out that President Reagan's program did not provide for curbing American strategic bombers and missiles.

One of the leaders of the American movement for freezing nuclear arsenals, (Randall Keller), said that the President had either not paid heed to the opinion of the American people, or deliberately ignored their unequivocal demand for halting the arms race.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly said that it favors the immediate resumption of the process of strategic arms limitation and that it wants everything positive that has been achieved in this field to be retained. The Soviet Union has put forward a series of proposals on curbing strategic arms and voiced its readiness to agree on major cuts in strategic nuclear arms on the basis of strict compliance with the principle of equality and equal security.

TASS Views Speech

LD111648 Moscow TASS in English 1517 GMT 11 May 82

["On the Statement by the U.S. President" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 11 May,TASS -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan made a foreign policy speech on May 9. His statement was preceded, as it is now customary in Washington, by noisy publicity. The American and the world public was promised that this would be a kind of a "new word" in the U.S. approach to the major questions of the present time, and primarily to questions of relations with the Soviet Union.

In fact, however, what was really "new" was that the President's speech combined fabrications and attacks on the Soviet Union and its policy which have become customary with present American leaders.

These are the attempts to ascribe to the Soviet Union what the United States itself is guilty of -- gross interference in the internal affairs of other nations, and the aspiration to impose on peoples orders which suit the United States. The American President did not keep himself in this speech either from teaching other peoples how to build their life, in an American way, of course.

These are also inventions about the alleged use by the Soviet Union of chemical weapons, which were needed only with a view to whitewashing the United States which is guilty of such crimes.

These are the same trite assertions about "Soviet aggressiveness" and "buildup of the Soviet military might". The President paid particular attention to this subject although, as always, he presented no proof. Moreover, he criticized the former U.S. leaders for their departure in the seventies (during the period of the lessening of tension) from the "position of strength" policy, that they did not link the development of trade with the East with demands for political concessions, accepted the principle of equal security at the disarmament talks, and failed to use the Helsinki Final Act to damage the socialist community.

Interpreting historical events in his own way, Ronald Reagan claimed that the detente era yielded "disappointment" in Europe and "severe disillusionment" in other parts of the globe. The so-called "policy" section of the speech, like the entire statement by the head of the White House, is permeated with an aggressive spirit. He urges to adopt a new, tougher course which provides, first of all, for unconditional subordination of U.S. allies to Washington and global escalation of the American military potential with a view to ensuring for imperialism superiority over socialist countries.

The President is pressing for the reduction of trade with socialist countries to minimum. According to Ronald Reagan, the United States and its allies should encourage world-wide processes directed against the interests of socialist countries and national liberation movements.

Remarks, scattered throughout the text of the speech, about the aspiration to preserve peace at present and in the future and readiness to establish new understanding with the USSR were, evidently, needed by the President for camouflage, to present in a showy way as a "constructive step" the announcement that the United States, after 18 months of delays, finally decided to start talks on strategic armaments. The lengthy explanations, however, by which the President accompanied his announcement, show that, in fact, no constructiveness is being even thought of in Washington.

The U.S. leadership is being driven by the same idee fixe -- to achieve unilateral advantages and damage the security of the Soviet Union and its allies. Characteristic in this sense are the President's words that he sees the tasks of the talks in the eighties in ensuring genuine and long-term limitation of Soviet military programmes. Without, of course, the United States taking corresponding pledges.

The ostentatiously peaceful rhetoric in the President's speech is a forced concession to public opinion intended to create more favourable conditions for implementing the same militarist plans.

Many prominent figures in the United States and Western Europe guessed the U.S. President's strategem. They justly describe in their statements his "new approach" not as a programme of restructuring East-West relations on the basis of realities, but as intention to undermine the process of disarmament, to keep the United States and the West in general on the line of power struggle against other nations, first of all the socialist community, and to ensure for the United States military superiority over the Soviet Union.

It is not difficult to guess why Ronald Reagan chose this very movement for making his speech. He is trying to abate the wave of anti-war demonstrations in the United States and Western Europe prior to the meeting of the NATO leaders, scheduled for early June, and at the same time to exert pressure on the U.S. allies.

Zubkov Analysis

LD112024 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 11 May 82

[From the "Today in the World" program presented by political observer Georgiy Zubkov]

[Text] The question of an accord between the Soviet Union and the United States on the limitation and reduction of strategic nuclear arms is of enormous significance for the reduction of the threat of a new war and for peace. Our country approaches this problem with full understanding and maximum responsibility. It was not our fault that the treaty signed in 1979 was not brought into operation; as is known, the United States refused to ratify it. And yet in the opinion of major American experts, the agreement prepared in 1979 remains the most detailed, the most all-embracing, the most carefully agreed document in the field of arms control almost 3 years after it was signed.

This question is becoming increasingly acute and urgent. Pointing this out in his speech at the Congress of Soviet Trade Unions, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev stressed firstly that implementation of the American plans to deploy new missiles in Europe could overturn the balance the two sides have achieved thus far in strategic weapons, and that secondly the development of new types of mass destruction weapons could knock the ground from under the agreements on limitation, reduction and control, which are now still possible. Therefore, said Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, we call on the Government of the United States to not cause artificial obstacles to the SALT talks and to begin them in the near future.

And so in his speech in Eureka, Illinois, President Reagan expressed readiness to resume Soviet-American talks on the limitation of strategic arms. But at the same time, this readiness is cancelled out by the proposals which were made. These proposals once again show that the United States is trying to achieve unilateral military advantages and is not trying to arrive either at mutually acceptable decisions or at the achievement of a reasonable accord based on the foundations of equality and equal security for both sides.

The American President's new proposals essentially boil down to a proposal that the Soviet Union dismantle a large part of its most powerful land-based missiles and that the United States reduce only a small part of its own missiles. Moreover President Reagan does not take into account either the creation and deployment of the American MX intercontinental missiles, the B-1 bombers or the Trident nuclear missile-carriers -- that is, precisely those system which Washington is using to try to boost the arms race. Why then, one wonders, was the American President expressing readiness to resume talks on the limitation of strategic weapons? In the opinion of many noted politicians, public figures and observers, all of this is an obvious attempt to neutralize the antinuclear movement which is growing in the world and also the strengthening of anti-American moods in Western Europe in connection with policy in the field of nuclear weapons.

Many papers are commenting today on the American President's speech in the state of Illinois. The London DAILY TELEGRAPH notes that the American proposals are obviously not enough to halt the arms race. The Japanese MAINICHI stresses that Reagan's plans are aimed at seeking superiority for the United States and at the same unilateral concessions from the Soviet Union. In the opinion of the Japanese paper, adopting these proposals would only lead to a dangerous upsetting of the balance of force. The Washington POST reports that the majority of Democratic members of the American Congress reacted sceptically to the American President's speech.

Kuznetsov, Pozner Discussion

LD120858 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 12 May 82

["The World at Midweek" presented by Pavel Kuznetsov]

[Text] On Sunday, speaking at Eureka College, Illinois, President Reagan announced an American proposal, in fact a two-stage proposal, to do with strategic arms. To analyze some of the proposal's aspects I will need the help of Vladimir Pozner.

[Pozner] Okay. Now what do you think about the President's proposal to begin Soviet-American talks on strategic arms?

[Kuznetsov] In principle it is a welcome move. This nation has been proposing it for many months.

[Pozner] One of the President's key points is that each side reduce its strategic arsenal by 1/3 Don't you think its a fair offer?

[Kuznetsov] Well, we here believe there is strategic parity. The Reagan administration claims that overall, we're dangerously ahead, so if we are indeed ahead, the 1/3 reduction of strategic arms by both sides -- that is if you count each and every component of the arsenal - will still leave us ahead of the United States, so I don't see the logic of the proposal. Moreover, Vladimir, according to American sources, the United States has about 10,000 warheads, while the USSR about 7,000, so if we go about this reduction business in terms of warheads, the United States will have to reduce more of them, so I still don't see the logic.

[Pozner] Well, Pavel, according to Western accounts of the President's proposal, some 2,000 warheads on American bombers are not included in it, nor is there any mention of cruise missiles, long-range cruise missiles, that bombers are being equipped with. All President Reagan wants to discuss at the first stage of the talks are land- and sea-based ICBMS.

[Kuznetsov] But why?

[Pozner] Well, first of all because the administration says Soviet land-based missiles are heavier than American. Secondly, the Soviet Union has more land-based missiles than the U.S., and, thirdly, because you cannot compare a strategic bomber, which is slower and thus more vulnerable, with an ICBM.

[Kuznetsov] Well, let me answer point by point. Nobody prevented Americans from building heavy missiles and deploying them on their own territory. They themselves chose a different way of arranging their strategic arsenal. To make it less vulnerable to an attack, they split it between land-based missiles, nuclear submarines and strategic bombers. That is why they have less land-based missiles. Secondly, talking of number of land-based missiles, American experts say that about 70 percent of the Soviet arsenal is on land and thus more vulnerable to a strike. Heavy or not, these missiles are in fixed silos. Their sole purpose is dissuasion. And, thirdly, talking of bombers, gone is the time when they had to fly over a target to drop a bomb. If they're so obsolete, as President Reagan insists, why do they keep building more of them, like the B-1 and stealth bombers, because they can hit a target with a cruise missile from a very, very long-range, and they can stay in the air, not at a fixed silo, for many hours risking no attack? These bombers are in fact an equivalent of an ICBM with several warheads, because they can carry several dozen cruise missiles. This was agreed upon in the SALT II treaty. Now President Reagan wants to leave them out and deal with them in the indefinite future.

[Pozner] You mean that the president's proposal requires greater cuts for the Soviet Union and preserves certain advantages for the U.S?

[Kuznetsov] The American proposal basically focuses on just one element in the Soviet arsenal, that is heavy land-based missiles, and forgets about the other two components in which the US admits it has a lead. It appears to be a departure from the principle of equality and like security, the key principle for achieving arms reductions.

PRAVDA HITS U.S. 'NEGATIVISM' AT VIENNA TALKS

PM111101 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 May 82 p 6

[Ye. Kamenskiy, I. Melnikov article: "Vienna: Time to Talk"]

[Text] The recesses at the Vienna talks are brief. In a few days, delegations from 17 European states, the United States and Canada will meet again in the Hofburg Palace's Redoubt Hall. Talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and arms in Central Europe will again find their rhythm.

The practice of the Vienna forum has predetermined quite clear procedures for beginning and closing the rounds and for holding plenary sessions and unofficial meetings. However, the range of traditions which has taken shape in the last 8 and 1/2 years has been infected by an undoubtedly harmful tradition -- that of ending round after round without concrete results. The latest round, the 26th, was unfortunately no exception. The delegations of the NATO states, primarily the United States, again exerted considerable efforts to drown the observable prospects for agreement in fruitless discussions and to use the meeting itself as a cover for actions quite different from force and arms reductions.

This is causing serious concern among the peace-loving public. Millions of people everywhere are following anxiously the dangerous nuclear and conventional arms race spiral being cranked up by the United States and NATO. The formulation of practical steps, to reduce both sides' military potential in the agreed region and the subsequent implementation of agreements would be a considerable contribution to strengthening peace, detente and cooperation between East and West. A substantial step would be made toward consolidating the security of all European countries at lower levels of armed forces and arms and with less military spending.

To date the Vienna talks give no cause for rejoicing although virtually everything that is needed for the successful conclusion of work on a first-stage agreement is now on the table in the Redoubt Hall. In fact, there are the decisions from preparatory consultations endorsed by the governments of all 19 participating states. The consultations held 9 years ago agreed on the subject of the talks -- the mutual reduction of armed forces and arms and related measures in Central Europe. Principles were established for formulating an eventual agreement, primarily reciprocity and nondetriment to any of the parties' security. The borders of the region to be covered by reductions, embracing the territory of the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia and also the FRG, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg, were clearly outlined. The circle of states which are direct participants and whose forces and arms are subject to reduction and limitation was defined. The Soviet Union, the United States, Britain and Canada are included here in addition to the above-listed states as countries with forces in Central Europe. The remaining participants in the Vienna talks -- Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and also Italy, Greece, Denmark, Norway and Turkey, which are outside the framework of the agreed region and have no armed forces in it, -- were given special status.

During the talks the partners' original stances have moved substantially closer together thanks to the efforts made, mainly by the socialist states, which have put forward in all about 20 proposals of both an all-embracing and a partial character. There is understanding on many aspects of reductions at the first stage and its links with the second stage. Rapprochement can also be secured on a number of other questions, as was shown by the comparison of Warsaw Pact and NATO states' positions made back in fall 1980.

The draft "Agreement on a First-Stage Mutual Reduction of Armed Forces and Arms and Related Measures in Central Europe" was an important move made by the socialist states during the last round. It was submitted on 18 February this year by the Polish delegation on behalf of four direct participants in the talks -- the USSR, the GDR, Poland and the CSSR. The document synthesizes the results of many years of discussions and of the compromises achieved during the work. It reflects a number of ideas and proposals to which the West European participants in the talks attach great significance. These are the ideas of a two-stage process of reductions embracing only land forces and in the first stage only two states -- the USSR and the United States -- and the freezing on a collective basis of the number of forces of the direct participants in Central Europe for the operative period of the first agreement and so forth.

The draft agreement clearly formulated the talks' final aim: a two-stage reduction of the total armed forces personnel of each side to equal collective levels of 900,000 men each, including 700,000 ground forces. The upper limit of air forces would be set at 200,000 men. A mechanism is envisaged for maintaining these levels which would prevent any participant from having more forces in Central Europe after the two stages than all its remaining military alliance partners taken together.

If an agreement is reached, the Soviet Union and the United States in the first stage would reduce and withdraw this year to within their national borders 20,000 and 13,000 ground troops respectively in divisions, units and subunits together with all their weapons and combat hardware. At the same time, all direct participants in the talks would "freeze" on a collective basis the total number of each side's armed forces in Central Europe for the 3-year period of operation of the first agreement and would assume appropriate commitments regarding their reduction at the second stage.

The draft puts forward specific measures with precise and clear parameters which can ensure the states' fulfillment of the commitments assumed by them in the agreement. Commensurate with practical steps, they are also designed to build confidence and mutual understanding among the participants in the talks. They include: notification by the Soviet Union and United States of the beginning and end of the process of the first-stage reduction of forces and arms; the exchanging on a mutual basis of statistics on the number of armed forces of the parties to the agreement in Central Europe in line with the parameters on which such an exchange has already taken place. The participants will have to notify each other of all movements by ground forces totaling over 20,000 men inside the boundaries of the reduction area as well as of major military exercises in the region by their ground forces. To ensure observance of the agreement, it is also envisaged that national technical monitoring facilities will be used and that appropriate consultations will be held among the participants in the event of doubt concerning the conscientiousness of the fulfillment of the assumed commitments.

In a word, the draft agreement, as was noted in the USSR delegation's statement at a press conference at the end of the 26th round, contains all the necessary components for the elaboration of a first mutually acceptable accord and the transition to the practical reduction of levels of military confrontation. It is carefully balanced and gives due consideration to the legitimate security interests both of the direct participants in the Vienna forum and of the countries "on the sidelines." The document's coauthors do not seek unilateral military advantages or demand from the Western partners commitments of a kind which they do not intend to assume themselves.

But what of the Western countries participating in the talks? Are they ready for practical steps? Unfortunately the West has once again failed to show the necessary political readiness to reach agreement on reducing the level of military confrontation. In his concluding address of the 26th round the American delegate gave no answer on the essence of the socialist states' draft.

Year after year the NATO countries have been using the so-called "statistical question" -- about the number of Warsaw Pact servicemen in the region subject to reduction -- as a mooring anchor to keep the Vienna forum at a standstill.

Without troubling to quote facts, they try to dispute the official figures submitted by the socialist states about their troops and make their own exaggerated estimates. These estimates prove and can prove nothing, of course. It is characteristic that the Western side has not been able to substantiate a single one of its estimates of the actual numerical strength of this or that component of the Warsaw Pact countries' armed forces in the agreed region. And it hardly could, when, according to the Hamburg magazine DER SPIEGEL, Western experts cannot even agree on the numbers of servicemen in the armies of the European NATO countries. And the divergences in this tally amount to 137,000 men!

If the NATO masters of statistics cannot (or will not?) take stock in their own camp, what degree of accuracy can be guaranteed by their own camp, what degree of accuracy can be guaranteed by their calculations of the numerical strength of Warsaw Pact states' troops? It is clear from Western circles that in this case NATO circles regard an "error" of 10 percent as acceptable, on the side of exaggeration, naturally, in order to "prove" some kind of "superiority" on the part of the Eastern side and try to justify instances of building up their own armed contingents in Europe.

Moreover, as emerged at discussions in Vienna, the Western side, violating the existing agreement, included in its estimates a number of categories of personnel on the Eastern side which they omitted on their own side. In this way the NATO countries' delegations are leading the talks further and further away from the main road into a "statistical quagmire."

The exchange of official statistics which has taken place twice at the talks reflects the real picture of approximate equality in the numerical strength of the two sides' troops in Central Europe -- 991,000 men in the NATO countries' armies and 979,000 men belonging to the Warsaw Pact states. There is simply no sense in engaging in further disputes on this score: Eventually, after reduction, the two sides will have equal numbers of troops -- 900,000 men each -- in this region in the center of the Continent.

Lastly, it is important that questions relating to a first-stage agreement can be easily resolved without further debates over figures. In fact, the concrete scale of reductions in USSR and U.S. ground forces at the first stage which are envisaged is not determined by the size of the two states' armed contingents in Central Europe. Nor do the treaty commitments of all parties to the agreement on not increasing or on freezing their armed forces in the agreed region demand more precise figures on the participants' troops.

Work on the text of the agreement in an editorial working party, as proposed by the socialist countries, would promote agreement on the questions which remain unresolved and the elaboration and adoption of a document which is important to the cause of peace and detente. A first-stage agreement, however modest in scope, would have a great political significance in the aggravated international situation.

The international response to the new initiative in Vienna shows that it has been greeted with interest by West European politicians and official circles. But what will be the fate of the February draft?

The western side has still not given any constructive response on the essence of the socialist countries' draft. The Warsaw Pact states' new initiative has evidently put it in a difficult position. By exposing the NATO leaders' obstructionist stance it removes the ground, in particular, from under the pseudoargument that the Soviet Union, by insisting on the renunciation of the first use of nuclear weapons, allegedly wants to weaken the defenses of NATO countries, which compared with the Warsaw Pact states do not have sufficient conventional armed forces.

This deliberately ignores the fact that the USSR, in conjunction with the other socialist community countries, consistently advocates the reduction and limitation of both nuclear and conventional arms and armed forces. It may be recalled that back in 1979 the Warsaw Pact states proposed to the participants in the conference on security and cooperation in Europe that agreement be reached on renouncing the first use of both nuclear and conventional armaments.

For all the complexity of the subject under iiscussion in Vienna, the time has long since come for European peoples to have a right to expect concrete, positive results from the talks. And it is now more than ever up to the NATO countries to respond.

Life itself now demands a responsible approach to the talks on the part of the governments of the West European participants. There is no denying that much depends on the U.S. stance in Vienna. But at the same time the U.S. administration's negativism is by no means a political excuse for West European statesmen and cannot justify their own far from constructive stance.

SOVIET EXPERT VIEWS NATO-WARSAW PACT BALANCE

AU111240 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 8 May 82 p 6

[APN military commentator V. Morozov interview with Maj Gen Konstantin Mikhailov, military expert of the USSR Ministry of Defense: "The NATO Headquarters' Claims Do Not Hold Water: About the Correlation of Forces between NATO and the Warsaw Pact"; Place and date not given]

[Text] On 14 April the West German weekly [as published] DIE WELT published fragments of a document being prepared by NATO's Brussels headquarters. The document's main objectives is to prove the Warsaw Pact's alleged crushing supremacy over the NATO military bloc in all respects and thus to lend support to the claim that there is no military balance between the East and the West. At the request of APN military commentator V. Morozov, Maj Gen Konstantin Mikhailov, military expert of the USSR Ministry of Defense, addresses the issue of the military correlation of forces between the Warsaw Pact and NATO:

In Western Europe, an ever-growing support is being given to the concrete realistic proposals of the Soviet Union aimed at eliminating the threat of a nuclear war and strengthening detente.

However, it is becoming apparent that such a prospect goes against the grain of Washington and some of its West European NATO allies. In the endeavor to defend their plan of NATO's "military augmentation" [dozbrojeni] and to achieve military supremacy over the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Pact member countries, as well as in the endeavor to suppress the tidal wave against war that has arisen in their countries, they continue to use the long-exposed lie, the utterly false myth about a "Soviet threat." The fact that they are pursuing this goal also transpires from the aforementioned fragments published by DIE WELT and from the "new discoveries" of NATO experts concerning the military correlation of forces between NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

Disregarding the clear language of facts, the NATO strategists are spreading mendacious claims about the Warsaw Pact member countries' alleged "crushing" supremacy over the NATO military bloc.

Let us take a look, for example, at their claims about the USSR's supremacy in intermediate-range nuclear devices. Soviet devices belonging to this category have been deployed in Europe, that is to say that ground and air-launched missiles with a range or operational radius of 1,000 km and more were deployed at one time, to counterbalance the United States' forward-based nuclear devices and analogous British and French weapons.

Both sides -- NATO and the USSR -- currently have roughly 1,000 such weapons each.

Western propaganda is unable to refute the fact that for several years the Soviet Union has not only been increasing but, on the contrary, has been generally reducing the number of its intermediate-range nuclear devices in the European part of the Soviet Union.

Nor has the existing balance been upset by the modernization of these weapons on the USSR territory in the form of the SS-20 missiles. We proceeded in such a way that the assembly of each SS-20 missile meant the dismantling of one or two of the old missiles. Nor has there been any change as regards the range of the tasks of the Soviet intermediate-range devices.

It is often claimed in the West that NATO allegedly has no missiles of analogous class. This is not true. A long time before the SS-20 missiles even existed, NATO had some 200 missiles of this class -- British and French -- already deployed. These missile systems have the same combat properties as the SS-20 missiles -- the same range, maneuverability, and they are equipped with the individual-targeting-system.

It is impossible to overlook the fact that in the eighties the West seeks to increase its nuclear potential of intermediate-range devices. Among other things, by means of increasing approxmiately threefold the number of warheads on British and French missiles. The U.S. forward-based devices are also being made more perfect. Nevertheless, the Soviet Union is doing everything possible to stabilize the situation in Europe. Proof of this is furnished by the imposition of a unilateral moratorium concerning the reduction of a known number of Soviet intermediate-range missiles.

NATO representatives also refer to the alleged supremacy of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact in general in the number of divisions, tanks, aircraft and some other devices. It is obvious, despite these assertions, that this is simply a case of manipulating figures.

The Soviet Union is, indeed, superior to the United States in the overall number of divisions of ground troops. However, this general supremacy is logical. It is the result of the USSR's geographic and strategic location, of the need to safeguard balance not only in Europe but also in other regions bordering on it.

As far as determining the correlation of forces between NATO and the Warsaw Pact countries in Europe is concerned, here the picture is clear. The NATO countries' 89 combat divisions on the European Continent are facing 78 divisions of the Warsaw Pact countries; it must be noted that in the first case the divisions in question have a smaller number of soldiers. The virtual balance of military forces is also attested to by the facts about the two sides' armed forces. This was confirmed, among other things, by the exchange of data on the number of soldiers at the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of troops and equipment in Central Europe (NATO -- 991,000 soldiers; Warsaw Pact countries -- 979,000).

Nor will the attempt to prove the Warsaw Pact countries' "crushing" supremacy in the number of tanks hold water. In reality, these countries have 25,000 tanks while NATO has 24,000 tanks. The difference is negligible. Besides, it is necessary to bear in mind that -- according to declarations by former U.S. Secretaries of Defense Schlesinger and McNamara, as well as a statement by the present Pentagon chief Weinberger -- the United States does not consider it essential to achieve a one-to-one balance in tanks.

The United States' leading representatives do not view increases in the number of tanks but, above all, a great number of anti-tank devices as the way of balancing the correlation of forces and achieving supremacy in this area. Even at present NATO possesses a great quantity of these weapons and keeps modernizing them.

The military parity between NATO and the Warsaw Pact countries is also confirmed by the present situation in tactical aircraft. Despite a slight supremacy of the Warsaw Pact countries in the number of combat aircraft (1.2 to 1), these countries' overall capacity to carry bombs is three times below that of the NATO countries and they also have only 50 percent of NATO's number of helicopters. Disregarding NATO's supremacy in the area of the combat potentials of the tactical aircraft, the Soviet Union is making no problem of it. In contrast to the West which so often speaks about the so-called tank threat.

The NATO specialists have also authored other similar "products," regarding for example the correlation of the two sides' naval forces. It is known that assault-oriented forces form the basis of American, as well as NATO's military naval forces. They are made up of 25 aircraft carriers and vessels transporting aircraft (20 of which are in the United States). The fleet of the United States and other NATO countries has almost three times as many cruisers, torpedo boats, missile-carrying speedboats and so forth that are equipped with guided missiles destined for aggressive purposes.

The Soviet Union has a total of two vessels for transporting aircraft, designated for combatting submarines. The Warsaw Pact member states have a negligible supremacy in small boats having a relatively small radius. They are designated for the protection and defense of their coasts.

It would thus seem that commonsense might prompt those who determine the NATO's policy to finally renounce the attempts to prove the unprovable. It is essential to concentrate efforts not on "fabricating" new lies but on seeking ways of limiting and reducing the military arsenals, ways leading to real disarmament.

Unfortunately, the countries associated in NATO and the United States in particular are making this impossible because they are blocking negotiations aimed not only at limiting but at reducing armaments, at reducing the high level of the two blocs' military confrontation and thus lessening the military threat resulting from it.

Negotiations on the basis of the principle of equality and equal security are the right way of helping to rid mankind of the threat of war.

NATO PLANNING COMMITTEE SESSION HELD IN BRUSSELS

PM111313 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 82 p 5

[Correspondent V. Drobkov dispatch: "Planning an Arms Race"]

[Text] Brussels, 7 May -- A session of the NATO military planning committee, for which the defense ministers of the member countries of the North Atlantic bloc's militarist structure gathered, was held under the sign of stepping up the arms race.

U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger arrived in Brussels in good time, when the bloc's "Eurogroup" was still sitting here, and at once set about indoctrinating the allies. The chief thing sought by the United States is to prevent the wrecking of plans to deploy approximately 600 new medium-range American nuclear missiles in West Europe. By putting ever-increasing pressure on the NATO partners Washington is reckoning on making them activate the practical preparations to deploy Pershing II's and cruise missiles, despite widening public protests.

In addition, attempts are being made to urge forward the implementation of a number of other militarist NATO programs. Evidence of this can be provided by the memorandum signed in Brussels on integrating a group of British Nimrod radar reconnaissance and control aircraft into the NATO system. These aircraft will be included in the recently created NATO air espionage service along with 18 Boeings equipped with AWACS. The first of them is already based at Geilenkirchen airbase in the FRG. With the attachment of the British aircraft to NATO the North Atlantic strategists will acquire the possibility of "peeping" deep behind the socialist countries' borders.

It must be said that the Anglo-Argentine crisis left an appreciable mark on this NATO session. For the first time in many years the "Eurogroup" sessions were held without the British defense secretary -- J. Nott was participating at the time in a debate in the House of Commons in London. Publication of the communique on the "Eurogroup" session was delayed owing to his absence. One of the sections of that communique is devoted to the conflict over the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands.

In this section the NATO allies, although they call for a "negotiated solution" on the basis of the corresponding UN Security Council resolution, in point of fact side with Britain.

The final communique of the military planning committee session confirms NATO's intention to continue the buildup of both nuclear and conventional arms. The bloc allies, excluding Greece, advocated that the preparations to deploy new American nuclear missiles in West Europe be continued at the former pace, according to the NATO "timetable." The problem of the bloc's actions outside its zone occupied a significant place in the communique. The military planning committee in point of fact supported Washington's claims to the role of "world policeman" and promised NATO support for possible actions by the American "Rapid Deployment Force" outside the borders of the North Atlantic bloc for the sake of safeguarding the West's "vital interests."

ENVIRONMENT DEGRADED BY IMPACT OF MILITARISM

LD120818 Moscow TASS in English 0740 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] Moscow, 12 May, TASS -- One cannot automatically explain man's impact on nature which is acquiring threatening proportions with the progress of the civilisation, or with the scientific and technological revolution, while disregarding specific objective laws operating in various social and economic formations.

The destruction of nature, the newspaper PRAVDA writes today, acquired an especially great scope in the past decades, because of the accelerating process of militarisation of the economies of capitalist states and the arms race linked with it.

Citing facts of an adverse impact of militarism on the natural environment, the paper stresses that it starts with the deflection of huge material and intellectual resources to the production of means of destruction. The record in building up military expenditures belongs to the United States, the world's most militaristic state.

The Reagan administration marked its first year in office by presenting the electorate with a "gift" of sorts: military expenditures for 1982 fiscal year stand at 219 billion dollars, and in the next five years they will total a cool 1,500 billion dollars.

The arms race demands huge expenditures of raw materials and energy resources. This constitutes a heavy burden for society and puts additional load on nature. Specifically, a steady increase in the share of energy carriers consumed by the military industries and the armed forces worsens the energy crisis through which the capitalist world is living.

In capitalist nations the very character of the military industries, the use of its products, their storage and transportation even at peace-time expose the population and the natural environment on vast expanses of territory to a deadly threat. As a result of a constant use on a colossal scale of radioelectronic radiation to cater for the needs of diverse military installations (including ultra-short waves, microwaves, etc.) The environment is fouled with an "electronic smog". New generation of chemical weapons is in development overseas. Work on biological weapons is continuing. The development of techniques to produce a direct impact on the climate, to influence the physical properties of water, gas and thermal exchanges between the hydrosphere and the atmosphere have long been going on at laboratories in a number of NATO countries.

And the fact that the United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed, despite Washington's position, the historical responsibility of states for the preservation of the Earth's nature, PRAVDA writes in conclusion, demonstrates that a majority of states are determined to work for the solution of this major problem.

CHILE'S PRO-BRITISH 'ACTIVE ASSISTANCE' CITED

PM111349 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 82 p 5

[M. Istomin "Rejoinder": "In Unison"]

[Text] Eyewitnesses report that as the Anglo-Argentine conflict intensifies, it has become fashionable in Pentagon corridors to whistle the British hymn "Rule, Britannia." By all accounts, the Chilean dictator Pinochet has also taken up this tune.

It has been learned that the Chilean junta has "made available" a new 14,000-ton tanker to the British armada which has assembled in the South Atlantic. And there are other facts attesting to active assistance for the British militarists from Chile's fascist regime.

After high-ranking British officers appeared in southern Chile, Argentine radio operators noticed a sharp deterioration in communication conditions owing to radio interference from the Chilean side. Pinochet's press, acting in unison with official Washington and London propaganda, publishes tendentious fabrications about its neighbors. Together with the United States, Chile voted against the resolution of the OAS foreign ministers' session recognizing Argentina's sovereignty over the Malvinas (Falkland) Islands. The day before R. Reagan's order to support Britain's colonial ambitions in the Anglo-Argentine conflict, an "agreement on cooperation" was reached between London and Santiago. The leaders of the Chilean junta declared that they are not alarmed at the possibility of staining their reputation with any actions directed against Argentina.

An old proverb says: "When the violin is played upstairs, people downstairs want to dance." The behavior of Washington's puppet, Pinochet, is a graphic example of this.

COMMENTS ON U.S. STANCE ON FALKLANDS CONFLICT

TASS Observer Chigir

LD111322 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1135 GMT 11 May 82

["Justice Washington-Style" -- TASS headline; by TASS political observer Nikolay Chigir]

[Text] Moscow, 11 May (TASS) -- As the Anglo-Argentine conflict over the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands grows, the role of the United States as a force not only actively supporting the militarist adventure of the British colonialists but also striving to use the situation which has come about in its own selfish interests, is becoming increasingly clear. There now remains no doubt that from the very beginning of the conflict Washington has stood behind Britain, and its widely-advertised diplomatic activity as a so-called "honest broker" was just a cover for the United States' essentially imperialist policy in Latin America, that same policy that has gone down in history with the name of the policy of the "big stick" and which even today has not undergone any change.

The true intentions of the U.S. administration were exposed when U.S. Secretary of State A. Haig submitted the proposal for creating a "tripartite administration" on the islands with the participation of the United States. Political observers immediately exposed this maneuver as aimed on the one hand at virtually excluding Argentina from taking part in resolving the problem of the archipelago, and on the other, at ensuring conditions for the implementation of plans nurtured by Washington to take the archipelago into its own hands.

In this connection, the foreign press draws attention to the efforts which the United States is making to obtain a base to serve its military and strategic plans in the South Atlantic and, among other things, to hold the countries of the southern tip of Latin America in its sights.

When the venture to obtain agreement for a "tripartite administration" of the islands collapsed because Argentina decisively rejected it, Washington openly came out against Argentina, having been forced to cast off the mask of "peacemaker." It had already demonstrated its openly pro-British course and utter contempt for the Latin American countries, which had come to the defense of the Argentine position, at the consultative meeting of the OAS foreign ministers. The American administration's next step was its official declaration of support for Britian and the imposition of American military and economic sanctions against Argentina.

The American-British deal, which serves the purposes of neocolonialism and is directed not only against Argentina but also against the Latin American states and all developing countries which defend the principle of independence, sovereighty and territorial integrity, is now a fact. As many newspapers from the Latin American press are now pointing out, the United States is now coming out in the role of an active accomplice in the British aggressive actions in preparation for an armed seizure of the Falklands (Malvinas). Furthermore, as Reston writes in the New York TIMES, according to Washington officials, the possibility is not ruled out that there could be a direct military intervention by the United States on Britain's side in the conflict.

The question is being raised, in light of all these facts, what is the worth of the verbiage coming from Washington's leaders to the effect that, to quote, in the matter of the Anglo-Argentine conflict the United States is directed by the desire to find a solution which would be "just toward Argentina as well as toward Britain"? It is precisely this kind of claim which is contained in an interview with President Reagan just published in the Brazilian journal VEJA. Falseness and hypocrisy are also wafting across from Washington's statements about the U.S. desire to "maintain close links with the countries of South America," and that, would you believe, since the present administration came into power, "U.S. relations with Latin America have begun to undergo significant changes."

Correa on Chilean View

PY111925 Moscow in Spanish to Chile 2030 GMT 10 May 82

[By Pedro Correa]

[Text] The people of Latin America are indignant over the hard test being confronted by the brother nation of Argentina in resisting British imperialism in alliance with U.S. imperialism. The brutality of the British fleet's military operations against Argentina moves our people and stimulates their anticolonialist and anti-imperialist feelings.

The Argentine recovery of the Malvinas and the fraternity shown against British usurpation are Latin American causes and stem from a profound sense of independence. We Chileans and all Latin Americans have always believed that the Malvinas were a part of Argentine territory, just as it was under the authority of the viceroy of the River Plate before Argentine independence. The prolonged military occupation of the Malvinas by the British did not change or affect the unquestionable rights of the Argentine Republic. Any Chilean book referring to this matter, even circumstantially, has the same criterion. For example, (Elias Lacerte), on pages 277 and 278 of his memoires of the life of a communist, describes his return from Uruguay to Chile via the Malvinas. He labeled them Argentine islands taken by the British by force.

The UN General Assembly resolutions recognizing Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas and urging an end to colonial occupation have been categorical. The British military attack with Washington's support is objectively aimed at restablishing, by use of force, the colonial condition of these South American islands. This reactionary objective is disgusting to our people who have opposed colonialism ever since the revolution to gain independence.

The Reagan administration has supported British armed aggression. U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig told U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT that what was at stake in the Malvinas were historic relations with the United Kingdom -- its traditional ally -- and the interrelation between that alliance and NATO at a time when NATO is afflicted by economic and strategic problems. Haig cynically said that the British domination of the Malvinas is, in the judgement of the Reagan administration, a vital question for the United States, for Western interests and the so-called interests of the Free World.

This unveils once again the nature and range of the imperialist warmongering policies aimed against all people. In fact, it particularly shows the U.S. rejection of the Pan American system and the Inter-american Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR, which the United States imposed on Latin America in Rio de Janeiro in 1947.

The Monroe Doctrine of America for the Americas has always concealed the objective of America for the United States. But now this has become a open rejection of that formal expression by acquiescing in British colonial domination of a part of South America. Regarding the OAS, what has taken place makes us realize once again that Simon Bolivar was right in advocating an organization of Latin American states defending their interests from the United States.

The United States, by aligning itself against Argentina and revealing its nature as an enemy of our countries, has demonstrated the hypocrisy with which it supports TIAR. At the first opportunity to change, it supported an aggression of a real and concrete anti-Latin American nature.

Now, over the ruins of Pan Americanism, a higher level of anti-imperialist awareness is emerging in Latin America, with a greater and more generalized understanding of who is the real enemy of the sovereignty of the states and of the interests of the people.

Under these circumstances it is obvious why regimes like that of Pinochet -- imposed by blood and fire at the service of Yankee imperialism -- go against the current of history. Pinochet's policies are profoundly hurting the national interests. One of these signs is the profound economic crisis, the irreparable damage to all types of production, unemployment and the many hardships of the workers. This is not all. Another manifestation of the antinational nature of the tyranny is its absurd and reactionary policies of so-called neutrality in the conflict between the sister Argentine nation and British colonialism.

There have been remarks from Pinochet's ministers which only create indignation and which show the progressive and (?unjust) nature of the regime. As an example, take a remark by Pinochet supporter over the Malvinas conflict that some of the credits from imperialist banks, which would normally have gone to Buenos Aires, may now come to Santiago and that Chile would be able to sell apples in markets previously supplied by Argentina.

People who express themselves thus show they are absolutely against the tradition of the liberators; they depart from the fraternity advocated by O'Higgins and San Martin, isolating Chile in a negative way in that it turns its back on Latin America. But the Chilean people support the cause of solidarity with their Argentine brothers as well as with socialist Cuba, Sandinist Nicaragua, Grenada, the struggling people of El Salvador and Nicaragua and with all of Latin America. The struggle against Pinochet is identified with progressive Latin Americanism.

U.S. 'Real' Attitude

PY120213 Moscow in Spanish to Latin America 0000 GMT 9 May 82

[Vladimir Lapskiy commentary]

[Text] Probably no international event during the past few years has so clearly revealed Washington's real attitude toward its southern neighbors as the current Anglo-Argentine conflict has.

Although at the beginning of the conflict the United States still tried to pretend to be somewhat impartial and interested in a peaceful solution to the conflict, the real U.S. position regarding this conflict has now been unmasked.

Some political observers of the Western Hemisphere tried to appear surprised with Washington's decision to fully support London. These reactions at least appear to be naive. Whoever wished to do so could easily see that Washington never really was a friend of Latin Americans.

Its selfish imperialist interests have always been first in its relationship with its southern neighbors. At first the White House and the U.S. Department of State asserted that the United States did not want to harm its relationship with London nor with Buenos Aires. However, Washington at the same time exerted a disguised pressure on Argentina and demanded that it be more obliging. Even at that point important sectors of the U.S. media started giving the English Government advice on how to teach the Argentines a lesson. At that time the New York TIMES, for example, stated that the most obvious means which comes to mind is to prepare for an immediate landing on the islands. Another path would be to blockade the main Argentine ports or to destroy port facilities for the export of grains. Another possibility would be to start fighting against the enemy's naval and air forces and cause it enough losses to defeat and shame the military junta. The New York TIMES continued to state that the objective is to give Argentina a good scare and cause it considerable material and economic damage.

It is difficult to imagine greater disdain and cynicism toward a country which the Washington government invariably termed a friend and to which it promised its solidarity and support.

As we see today, the government of London took advantage of some good advice from the other side of the ocean, but we also see that advice was not all that was involved. From the role of arbitrator which Washington tried to present itself as it has become an accomplice in the conflict. It is well known now that the United States supplies the British Navy in the South Atlantic all the secret information received from U.S. radar, satellites and planes equipped with special systems. Let us recall that Argentina sent a note of protest to the Department of State accusing Washington of having supplied the British with reconnaissance information on the location of the cruiser General Belgrano which, as is known, was torpedoed by British submarines. The British can also use the U.S. military base on Asencion Island.

During the past few days the U.S. radio station NBC reported that the Pentagon has suggested that there are plans to secure supplies for the British fleet for which the use of military transport planes as well as U.S. Navy ships currently on maneuvers in the Caribbean would be used.

The French radio station [name indistinct] reported that the United States has not asserted that it does not interfere in the military operations. This is quite logical. U.S. actions are guided by imperialist solidarity with England with the objective of persuading and ordering those who, defending their national dignity, show firmness and sovereignty.

The Latin Americans draw their own conclusions from the position adopted by the United States regarding the Anglo-Argentine conflict. Commentaries point out that the position adopted by Washington will serve those in Latin America who still have naive faith in U.S. good intentions as a good lesson.

U.S. 'Hypocrisy' Cited

LD120948 Moscow TASS in English 0936 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] Moscow, 12 May, TASS -- Britain's actions to settle militarily its conflict with Argentina over the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands have been made possible only by the fact that the United States, discarding its mask of an "honest broker," an impartial mediator in the settlement of this conflict, has finally taken the side of London, writes the newspaper MOSCOW NEWS in its May 16 issue.

The author of the article, Oleg Anichkin, says:

The worst expectations voiced from the very beginning of the self-assumed "peace making" mission of the U.S. secretary of state have now proved true. The United States then did not show its cards in this big game: to help one of its principal NATO partners and at the same time to save its face in Latin America, to retain its positions there, and perhaps, make some extra gains in this explosive situation. It has become absolutely clear now that Washington acted as a hypocrite and was siding with Britain. The secretary of state's eleven-day mediation was needed to enable Britain to bring its fleet to the Falklands and get ready for landing its troops there and beginning military actions.

It is said in Anichkin's article that with the help of the United States, Britain is in effect unleashing a war against Argentina. It uses threats, blackmail, armed force and other actions which recall the times of colonial brigandage.

Washington, the author notes, seems even to have ignored the undesirable consequences for the United States resultant of this position. It is not hard to see that in the long run this may affect the U.S. relations with Latin American countries. In any case, this will surely erode American influence in the region. What is more, non-aligned countries in other areas of the world will draw conclusions for themselves from such a policy of the USA.

SOVIET PEACE COMMITTEE ISSUES DECLARATION

PY112055 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress to Latin America in Spanish 0130 GMT 11 May 82

[By Soviet Committee for Peace member (Vadim Bogoslovkiy)]

[Text] Soviet supporters of peace, (Bogoslovskiy) states, are profoundly concerned over hostilities between Great Britain and Argentina. In view of the exacerbation of the South Atlantic situation, the Soviet Committee for Peace issued a declaration which says that the military actions of the British Navy in the Malvinas zone, designed to restore its colonial status, represent a crude violation of several UN resolutions on decolonization. The declaration adds that sending the British fleet to the southern zone of the Atlantic and the economic sanctions against Argentina are contrary to international law and jeopardize peace and security.

The U.S. position also raises indignation. The Reagan administration (openly) (?supports) the colonial pretensions of the U.K. Government organizations. This also reveals the militaristic policy of the United States and its NATO allies, which has led to a serious aggravation of the international situation. It has caused and aggravated tension in different parts of the world, particularly in Latin America.

Thus, in addition to the British colonialists, the responsibility for the death of hundreds of Argentine sailors on the cruiser General Belgrando also falls upon the United States. And not only an indirect responsibility, but a direct one, because (?it is well known) that the Pentagon is providing secret information to the British fleet on Argentine fleet movements. Based on this information, they prepare their battle operations.

Peaceful persons have also been victims of the bloodshed in the South Atlantic. Is it possible, then, to remain indifferent to the fact that the British sank an Argentine fishing boat, while British pilots machinegunned the fishermen trying to save themselves? This massacre of defenseless persons has demonstrated what perfidious Albion is capable of.

This massacre has also unveiled the cynicism and total contempt of the British colonialists for human lives. Can one perchance listen indifferently to the words of Sandy Woodward, commander of the British fleet: My work consists of breaking heads, and I will do my job in the most effective manner possible.

British imperialism, supported by the United States, is expanding the conflict. The task of all persons who love peace and life on earth is to try to stop this war. The Soviet supporters of peace, in addition to millions of fighters for peace in other countries, firmly say no to the war in the South Atlantic.

INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM NEEDS REORGANIZATION

PM120759 [Editorial Report] Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 19 on 7 May 1982 publishes on pages 10-11 a 1,000-word A. Baryshev article entitled "Will President Monroe Spin in His Grave?" The article begins by describing the background to the signing of the Rio treaty and the founding of the OAS, noting the similarity of the treaty's primary aims with those of the Monroe Doctrine. It then proceeds to criticize the U.S. administration for refusal to uphold those aims and come to the assistance of a fellow American country -- Argentina -- in defending itself against aggression from a non-American power -- Britain. The article draws the following conclusion: "The present clash shows that the two Americas are moving increasingly far apart. It convinces us once again of the need for a fundamental reorganization of the inter-American system and the OAS, which Washington, disregarding the political realities on the continent, wishes to see merely as an instrument of neocolonialism."

RPP on System's Collapse

PY120633 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Spanish to Latin America 0130 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] The United States has caused a deep crisis in the inter-American juridical system. Its open support for the United Kingdom in its conflict with Argentina has violated the most important inter-American document: The Rio de Janeiro treaty concerning the joint defense of the continent and OAS statutes.

Instead of supporting Argentina, the victim of aggression perpetrated by a European colonial country, the United States has sided with the colonialists. Instead of supporting the OAS resolution for the solution of the conflict, the United States turned its back on the inter-American organization and its appeals.

The general feeling of the Latin American people in this regard has been expressed well by former Uruguayan Foreign Minister Rovira. According to Rovira, the OAS and the Rio de Janeiro treaty, and other collective security organizations have completely failed. They are in effect inoperative. Rovira noted: I believe these organizations are collapsing and will eventually disappear. Rovira has proposed a revision of the inter-American relations system and the establishment of a new one based on different terms. Moreover, he brought up the old idea of replacing the OAS by the OLA, a regional UN Organization for Latin America without the participation of the United States. This idea was originally promoted when the OAS was established at the 9th Panamerican conference in Bogota. Already at that time, wise politicians understood the incompatibility of Washington's imperialistic ambitions with the yearning for freedom of the Latin American countries.

The idea of establishing OLA won wide support in 1965 during the U.S. intervention in the Dominican Republic when the Rio de Janeiro treaty and the OAS banner were exploited to cover up the open anti-Latin American action perpetrated by the Yankees. During those unforgettable days, many Latin American newspapers described pan-Americanism as an alliance between a shark and sardines, and the OAS as an aquarium filled with sardines who have nothing else to do but await their turn to be gobbled up by the shark.

This metaphor is quite apt. Throughout the years, Radio Peace and Progress has pointed out the deep and insoluble contradictions that divide Latin American nations and their insatiable northern partner and showed that the present inter-American relations system was doomed to fail.

Facts have confirmed that these predictions were well-grounded. Latin American nations refused to be the sardines of Washington's expansionist policy. The Latin American liberation movements [words indistinct] also at the OAS. Moreover, at that forum voices were raised to condemn U.S. economic aggressions. Latin American governments refused to comply with Washington's request of repeating in Nicaragua and El Salvador what was done in the Dominican Republic. In sum, the OAS refused to go along U.S. aggressions against Cuba.

The rising crisis of the pan-American system has already led to the creation of the inter-American economic system, SELA; Cuba is also a member of this organization. The crisis also led to the creation of regional economic organizations having an anti-imperialistic orientation. Urged by the Latin American countries, the United States was forced to amend certain clauses of the Rio de Janeiro treaty which could lead to U.S. armed intervention in the Americas.

As the U.S. Government increased its aggressive policy, so did demands for a political reorganization of the OAS. Despite this, however, the U.S. administrations were still able to feign being the friend and even the protector of Latin America.

In the Anglo-Argentine conflict, the United States at first pretended to be neutral conciliator and mediator. But the masks have fallen and together with them the last veil of decorum of the inter-American system that was established by the United States.

Latin Americans reject this plundering and violent system. They want to decide their own destiny by themselves.

REAGAN FABRICATIONS ON SOVIET-POLISH TIES

LD111216 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1115 GMT 11 May 82

[By TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov]

[Text] Moscow, 11 May (TASS) -- the less Washington has to say in a positive way about its policies, the more tempted it is to take up the pose of mentor, administering advice on how people should live, and to don the mantle of a protector of others' interests. Yet another instance to prove this was President Reagan's speech in the state of Illinois where he touched upon the situation in Poland. He not only thought it necessary once more to wheel out the Washington concoction of standard anti-Soviet fabrications with regard to Soviet-Polish relations; in essence he was also trying to dictate to the government of a sovereign country how it should conduct its internal affairs.

In Washington they make the slander that "harsh repressions" are being applied and human rights suppressed at the moment in Poland. In fact, a fratricidal war has been forestalled in the Polish People's Republic, a national catastrophe has been forestalled. It was in just this direction that imperialist forces were guiding things in Poland from without, and their reactionary agents were guiding them from within.

Slanderous attacks on a sovereign socialist state which originate from the U.S. administration and are assiduously taken up by the bourgeois press and subversive, provocative "radio voices" broadcasting to the Polish People's Republic -- stations which are, incidentally, subordinate to the U.S. government -- are depicted almost as U.S. "concern" about "national reconciliation" in Poland.

It is quite obvious, however, that this hypocritical "concern" is in reality nothing but a smokescreen for the unceasing attempts by certain circles in the United States to encourage antisocialist forces in Poland in every way possible, to egg them on to infringe law and order and to create artificial barriers from the process of socioeconomic stabilization. A situation in which a weak Poland, torn by internal contradictions, is weakening the whole socialist camp would serve Washington's purposes, the Polish agency PAP notes in this connection. That is why certain people in Washington, who are clearly confusing the Polish People's Republic with California or Texas, continue to "point out" how it is to build its own life and what internal policies it is to pursue, while subversive Western radio broadcasts try to instigate open opposition to people's power.

All this represents in itself inadmissible pressure being exerted on the independent Polish state, pressure which is absolutely incompatible with the spirit or letter of the UN Charter, with the Helsinki Final Act, with the basic norms of international relations.

From all accounts, certain circles in the United States who are trying to adapt the world to their own imperialist ambitions are now enraged that "the Polish booty," so to speak, has "slipped from their hands," are still hoping, in defiance of logic and reason, to acquire some "foothold" in Poland in order to try and bring discord in the world of socialism and at the same time destabilize the entire existing system of international relations. As TRYBUNA LUDU noted some time ago, to try and talk to the world of socialism from a position of strength means futile and hopeless reckoning which has never yielded results and never will, and nobody -- not even the U.S. President -- will be able to dictate to sovereign socialist Poland what its policy should be. Those in the United States who have not so far become aware of this obvious truth and, passing off black for white and vice versa, are continuing to fan anti-Polish and anti-Soviet hysteria, are again and again revealing themselves to be supporters of exacerbating tension and apologists of the cold war.

WEEKLY CLAIMS U.S. VIOLATING SPACE TREATY

PM120831 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 19, 7 May 82 pp 20-21

[Yu. Kolosov article: "Satellites and War"]

[Text] According to the American press, Washington is actively helping Britain in the Anglo-Argentine conflict. The British Navy is using American satellites for communications. They supply the British armada with data on weather conditions and iceberg movements in the South Atlantic, as well as on the actions of Argentina's Forces.

The United States is acting clearly against the spirit of the 1967 treaty on the principles of states' activities in investigating and using space, including the moon and other heavenly bodies. More than 80 states, including the United States, Britain and Argentina, are parties to that multilateral agreement. The treaty recognizes mankind's common interest in progress in space research and the use of space for peaceful purposes and also emphasizes that space must be investigated and used for the good of and in the interests of all countries.

The aims which M. Thatcher's cabinet sets itself in the region of the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands can in no way be called peaceful, and U.S. space espionage in Britain's favor cannot be to the good of all countries and meet their interests.

Article III of the aforesaid treaty obliges the parties to it to conduct activity on the use of space in accordance with international law, including the UN Charter, in the interests of maintaining international peace and security and developing international cooperation and mutual understanding. In the Anglo-Argentine armed conflict American meteorological satellites and facilities for space communications and for observing the Earth's surface are being used for purposes directly contrary to the provisions of that article.

It is possible that some people would try to justify Washington's services to London with references to the right of states to cooperate in the use of space. However, in the 1967 treaty (Article IX) specifies that cooperation in space research and use may be conducted with due regard to the relevant interests of all other states which are party to the treaty. In this case Argentina's very vital interests are affected. Moreover, in concluding the treaty the participant states proposed that it would promote mutual understanding and friendly relations among the peoples. In this situation things are quite the opposite.

The stand of the U.S. and British delegations on the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space is now becoming still clearer. Artificial satellites are being used increasingly widely to study the Earth's surface and the environment. This activity is called remote probing of the earth [distantsionnoye zondirvaniye zemli]. It is of great benefit to many countries in resolving economic problems. At the same time remote probing of the earth may make available to individual states information about foreign territories which affects very important state interests. About the actions of the Argentine Armed Forces, for example.

Soviet representatives propose an agreement not to pass on to anyone data of a certain kind obtained from remote probing of the Earth or to disseminate it without the consent of the governments of those countries. This viewpoint is supported by the majority of the committee's member states. But for many years now the constant objections of the representatives of a number of Western countries have been preventing the elaboration of the principles of remote probing of the Earth from being completed. These countries are, above all, the United States and Britain. In situations like the Anglo-Argentine clash freedom to disseminate such information entails strategic advantages for one of the parties to the conflict and becomes equivalent to space espionage.

Although the principles of remote probing of the Earth have not yet been adopted, this does not mean that there are no juridical and legal norms in this sphere. All the cited provisions of the 1967 treaty are wholly and entirely applicable to it.

The present U.S. administration is preparing to make more extensive use of space for military purposes. In June 1980 the New York TIMES magazine reported that the reusable space shuttle will be used chiefly by the Pentagon. In March 1981 the Washington STAR wrote that calls were being made in the United States to achieve military superiority in space. For this it will be necessary to launch manned military satellites and create space "minefields" using lasers already in the mid-eighties. The dangerous trend confirms the need to rule out the militarization of space and to prevent it from being turned into an arena of confrontation.

Alarm over the spread of the arms race into space has been voiced repeatedly by many delegations on the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

Last August the USSR advanced a proposal at the United Nations to conclude a treaty banning the emplacement of weapons of any kind in space. In the resolution adopted on this question the General Assembly recognized the need to take effective measures to prevent the spread of the arms race into space and entrusted the disarmament committee with beginning talks to agree the text of a corresponding treaty.

At a Disarmament Committee session the representatives of the United States and some of its allies thwarted the fulfillment of that General Assembly mission. The American representatives on a number of UN organs make it clear that certain types of military activity in space, in their opinion, should be included in the "peaceful" category if they are not aggressive by nature. The May 1981 issue of the atom scientists' Chicago bulletin carried an article whose author maintains that the military use of space (but without weapons) can help to ensure states' security. The role played by U.S. satellites in the Anglo-Argentine conflict shows how dangerous "peaceful" military satellites can prove when they are used contrary to international law.

REAGAN DINNER WITH SOVIET DISSIDENTS REPORTED

LD121100 Moscow World Service in English 1000 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] President Ronald Reagan invited a group of so-called Soviet dissidents living in the United States for dinner in the White House on Tuesday. In that way the President again expressed moral support for persons who have long become active agents of the American secret services in their psychological warfare against the Soviet Union. Perhaps President Reagan finds pleasure in meeting (?with) people who for American dollars slander their former homeland. But how does that go with Reagan's statement made only a few days ago about readiness to establish a new mutual understanding with the Soviet Union?

COMMENTARIES ON BUSH'S TALKS WITH PRC LEADERS

Barakhta in PRAVDA

PM120923 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 May 82 p 5

[Boris Barakhta "Commentator's Column": "'Commonality of Interests'"]

[Text] U.S. Vice President George Bush has concluded his official trip to China, to which both sides attached great significance. The guest from Washington brought with him a message from the U.S. president to the chairman of the CCP Central Committee expressing the desire, as the Japanese newspaper NIHON KEIZAI points out, to "continue developing relations" with Beijing. A number of PRC leading figures held talks lasting many hours with the U.S. vice president.

It follows from foreign press reports that the Beijing talks centered on questions of American-Chinese bilateral relations, primarily the problem of the U.S. administrations' continuing support for the Chiang Kai-shekist regime. On the eve of the visit the newspaper RENMIN RIBAO carried a commentary calling the American administration's recent decision to sell weapons to Taiwan a "time bomb." The newspaper condemned the two-faced U.S. stand on this question in quite sharp terms. However, it became obvious during Bush's stay in China that the commentary was designed for propaganda purposes. A different tone was taken during the talks. Thus, according to Deng Xiaoping, this important question affecting PRC sovereignty creates only a "certain cloudiness" in Sino-American relations.

Other Chinese figures in turn described the talks with the guest from across the ocean as "a friendly and sincere exchange of opinions." The impression is created, the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR wrote in this connection, that Beijing would like to use the Taiwan question to secure new concessions from the United States in the sphere of deliveries of technological equipment, as well as modern types of American weapons.

To judge from commentaries in the press, G. Bush's visit has not led to a change in the U.S. positions on the Taiwan question. But at the same time the U.S. administration, by continuing the Sino-American bargaining over Taiwan, is clearly trying to hitch Beijing to its inflammatory, anti-Soviet policy and make the PRC leadership forgo the country's national interests. This is precisely the payment that Washington expects for the further development of bilateral relations with China.

G. Bush declared at a reception in Beijing that the development of ties between the United States and the PRC must be based on "commonality of interests" in the face of notorious "hegemonist expansion." Such statements prove once again that the imperialists' aim is to try to harm the socialist community countries, disdaining no means.

Radio Commentary

OW120608 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1230 GMT 8 May 82

[Text] In his speech at a Beijing banquet, U.S. Vice President Bush said: To launch a counterattack against the Soviet threat is the main task for the leaders in both Washington and Beijing. Regarding this (Setin), Soviet journalist and an expert on international issues, comments as follows:

Bush's remarks on this Soviet threat merit attention. A Beijing leader said that Sino-American relations are in a state of crisis because of the U.S. stand on the Taiwan issue. In the past several months the Beijing leaders have more than once insinuated that diplomatic relations between China and the United States would be downgraded if the United States refuses to stop sending military supplies to Taiwan.

At the same time Bush acted as if no problems had ever existed on the issue of Taiwan. In his speech at the banquet in Beijing he said: We stand by the principles agreed upon by our governments in the joint communique on the establishment of diplomatic relations, and we have respected China's sovereignty and territorial integrity both now and in the past. In other words, the U.S. vice president tried to ask his Beijing partner to accept a fait accompli. On the one hand Washington plans to continue to supply arms to Taiwan, while on the other hand it is bent on saying that such supply does not infringe upon China's sovereignty and territorial integrity. In order to reconcile other contradictions, he suggested that all minor issues be ignored, but that the threat from the Soviet Union be dealt with. With stirring words he said: Only this is our main task and main duty. In his speech, this special U.S. envoy has portrayed a picture of possible united action by the leaders in Washington and Beijing in launching a counterattack to check Soviet expansion. He also requested the Beijing leaders to exert even greater efforts to interfere in the internal affairs of the peoples in Afghanistan, Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea and in support of U.S. policies in Africa, Latin America and other parts of the world.

Zhao Ziyang, premier of the People's Republic of China, said in reply to the distinguished U.S. guest that the Beijing leading clique is ready to find ways to iron out the differences between China and the United States and find grounds for united action.

I believe that this statement by a Beijing leader proves that Beijing plans to strike a bargain with Washington. All signs indicate that both sides plan to make use of this Taiwan card. The Beijing leaders hope to gain something by making a concession on the Taiwan issue; that is, they hope that the United States will lift its ban on the shipment of U.S. weapons to China. On the other hand, the United States seeks to continue implementing its two Chinas policy and to push China onto the path of world adventurism and military confrontation. The remarks on the Soviet threat are nothing but a smokescreen to conceal the plan.

Fesunenko Overview

LD111514 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1845 GMT 10 May 82

[From the "In the World Today" program, presented by Igor Fesunenko]

[Text] U.S. Vice President Bush's 5-day visit to China is over. Here is film of his meeting with Deng Xiaoping. A XINHUA report could serve as a commentary to these shots. It says that during the meeting Deng Xiaoping told Bush: You are fairly well acquainted with China. You are an old friend of China, and we welcome you from our hearts. We want, Deng said, your present visit to Beijing to dispel certain shadows and to disperse a certain cloudiness on the horizon of relations between our two countries.

Well, one should evidently add that the cloudiness that Deng mentioned was caused by Washington's persistent desire, while assuring China of its friendship, to pursue a policy of "two Chinas", which, in particular, finds expression in supplies of American military hardware to Taiwan. This is unquestionably an irritant in the relations between the two countries, and observers believe that no specific results were achieved on this issue at the talks.

As is well known, Sino-American relations are cemented by anti-Sovietism and a mutual desire to stoke up tension in Asia on this foundation. Before he flew out, Bush read to a press conference the contents of a letter from Reagan, which the vice president passed to the Chinese leaders. This letter repeats the traditional anti-Soviet calls.

CPSU DELEGATION ARRIVES IN TOKYO FOR CONFERENCE

OW111415 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] A CPSU delegation arrived in Tokyo today to attend an international conference for opposing nuclear weapons and promoting disarmament and establishment of nuclear-free zones. Included in the delegation are: Tyazhelnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chief of its Propaganda Department, and Kovalenko, deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee.

PRAVDA REPORTS USSR HELPS BUILD DPRK PLANT

PM070923 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Apr 82 p 5

[Correspondent V. Razuvayev dispatch under the rubric "News From the Socialist Countries": "The Benefit Is Mutual"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 26 Apr -- The official launch of the Pyongyang vehicle battery plant was a great festive occasion for that enterprise. The new plant is one of the largest industrial projects built in the DPRK with the USSR's technical assistance on a compensation basis.

The planning documents were compiled by Leningrad planners. Soviet equipment made a large part of the plant. Experts who came here from Leningrad, Kursk and Podolsk took part in assembling it and setting it in operation. Skilled workers and foremen were also trained with their help. A large group of Korean engineers and technicians underwent training and industrial practice at related enterprises in the USSR.

The launch of the vehicle battery plant is of great national economic significance for the DPRK. At full capacity it will produce 1.1 million batteries annually. The plant's output will make it possible not only to satisfy the increasing requirements of home vehicle and tractor building but will also be delivered to the Soviet Union as compensation for the equipment and assistance in building the plant.

MOSCOW PLANT OFFERS ASSISTANCE TO DPRK

SK010820 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 30 Apr 82

[Text] The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has issued a decree awarding the October Revolution Medal to the (Plegeru) tool plant in Moscow on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the plant. This tool plant, a collective member of the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society, exports tools to the DPRK and many other countries.

The plant employees have offered assistance to the fraternal Korean friends.

A mass rally was held at this plant to mark the 50th anniversary of its founding. This plant recently sent equipment needed for the No 15 generator at the DPRK Pukchang thermal powerplant.

KARMAL TAKES PART IN AMU DARYA BRIDGE OPENING

Further on Arrival

LD112018 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] A party and government delegation led by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, left Kabul today for Termez, Uzbekistan. Termez Airport was decorated with the flags of both countries to mark the delegation's arrival. Babrak Karmal and his delegation were welcomed at the airport by Sharaf Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Uzbekistan Communist Party; Khudayberdyyev, chairman of the Uzbekistan Council of Ministers; (Berdiam), secretary of the Surhandarinskaya Oblast party committee; Karimov and other members of the Uzbekistan Council of Ministers; I.D. Sosnov, USSR minister of transport construction; S. Skachkov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; representatives of social and scientific organizations; a large number of Termez workers; F.A. Tabeyev, Soviet ambassador in Afghanistan; and Dr Habib Mangal, DRA ambassador to the USSR.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers; Doctor Najib, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo; Mahmud Barialay, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Dr Niyaz Mohammad Mohmand [name as heard] secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; and other party and government officials are accompanying Babrak Karmal. The DRA delegation's motorcade was warmly welcomed by a large number of Termez citizens, who lined both sides of the roads. Karmal and Rashidov later participated in a ceremony to plant a tree of friendship in the Termez park.

11 May Activities

LD111512 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 11 May 82

[Report from Termez by Moscow Radio's special correspondent Eshkin Rasimov]

[Text] Termez is pretty and festively decked out today, a town bathed in green at the southernmost corner of our country. A great event is taking place here: the opening of the bridge across the Amu Darya. Spanning the river from bank to bank, it is as if the new bridge holds firmly together the two friendly peoples, the Afghan and the Soviet peoples. It has become a true symbol of the fraternal friendship between the two neighboring states.

As has already been reported, for the celebrations to mark the opening of the Amu Darya bridge in Termez, a party and government delegation arrived from Afghanistan headed by Comrade Babrak Karmal, PDPA Central Committee general secretary and DRA Revolutionary Council chairman.

To mark completion of the construction work and putting of the bridge into operational use, the esteemed Afghan guests and the Soviet delegation planted young trees in the town's Druzhba Park. One of the newly created streets has been named Kabulskaya, in honour of the friendly Afghan people.

To mark the handing over of the Amu Darya bridge for exploitation, at 0600 Moscow time on the banks of the great central Asian river, on the very spot where this unique modern installation has been erected out of concrete and metal, a populous meeting will be held for representatives of the working people from Surhandarinskaya Oblast. The envoys of Afghanistan, headed by Comrade Babrak Karmal, will also take part. No doubt the new bridge across the Amu Darya will serve the true interests of our peoples. It will be a great help in the further strengthening of mutually advantageous and friendly relations between our countries.

Karmal Remarks 11 May

LD111518 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] The powerful transport artery spanning the Amu Darya river at Termez is one of dozens of industrial, agricultural and other projects built in Afghanistan in close cooperation with the USSR, said Babrak Karmal to a TASS correspondent. The beginnings of these contacts are to be found in the period immediately following the Great October Socialist Revolution. With the direct participation of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, the foundations were laid for good-neighborly relations between the two states. The young Soviet state was the first country to recognize the independence and sovereignty of Afghanistan. Since the victory of the national democratic revolution in Afghanistan, relations between our countries have been imbued with qualitatively new content. They are characterized by fraternity, revolutionary solidarity, and all-round cooperation. These relations will develop even further and strengthen for the good of the peoples of our two countries, in the interests of ensuring peace, security and social progress.

The Afghan people cherishes sincere feelings of friendship toward the Soviet people, toward its well-tested avant-guarde, the CPSU, the Central Committee headed by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev.

The USSR has proffered to the Afghan working people invaluable help in their struggle against the enemies of the April Revolution and along the road to economic, social and cultural construction of a new Afghanistan. By rendering economic and technical assistance, the country of Lenin is helping to strengthen the Afghan national economy. The close cooperation facilitates the further development of trade between the DRA and the USSR. In the last 4 years alone, trade turnover between our countries has risen more than three times. In return, payment for the cost of Soviet equipment, oil products, ferrous metals and machinery, Afghanistan is exporting to the Soviet Union carbamide, natural gas, wool, cotton, raw leather, and fresh and dried fruits.

Babrak Karmal emphasized that the successes of the SSSR in all spheres are of great importance not only for the world socialist system and for the international communist and workers' movement; they also inspire the national liberation movements in their struggle for fundamental reforms in the interests of the working people.

In conclusion, the leader of the DRA said: Nobody and nothing can stand in the way of the developing friendship and cooperation between our peoples, nor halt the forward march of the Afghan Revolution.

Bridge Ceremony 12 May

LD121050 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] This morning the ceremonial opening of the motor vehicle and railroad bridge over the Amu Darya River on the frontier between the USSR and Afghanistan took place. A meeting in the Uzbek town of Termez was devoted to this event. The meeting was addressed by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the republic's Revolutionary Council; Sharaf Rashidovich Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee; (Muhamad Dakhir), an Afghan worker; and (Mioz Zhalilov), a Soviet bridge construction worker. Comrades Karmal and Rashidov cut the ribbon and opened traffic on the new bridge across the Amu Darya, which will ensure reliable railroad and motor vehicle communications for our countries and will render the transportation of cargoes much cheaper. A meeting on the occasion of the opening of the bridge also took place on the Afghan bank of the Amu Darya. An obelisk has been erected and a tree planted there in honor of this memorable event.

MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN PORTRAYS DRA REBIRTH

LD061040 Moscow TASS in English 1000 GMT 6 May 82

[Text] Moscow, 6 May, TASS -- "Today hundreds of thousands of Afghan working people feel the care taken of them by the revolutionary power and are aware of the superiority of the new social system," the journal INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS [MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN] writes, summing up the results of the 4 years since the April 1976 revolution. "Rebirth is taking place in every field, including politics, the economy, and social and cultural affairs," the journal writes in its May issue.

"The political, social and economic domination of feudals and major usurers has been abolished. A land reform is being carried out to benefit farmers and nomads. The public sector in industry and on transport is being expanded and strengthened. An atmosphere of legality and respect for civil rights and freedoms is being fostered in the republic, the article points out. The journal describes some of the measures taken in the field of social affairs: About 300,000 farming families have been granted plots of land free of charge; wages for the lower paid categories of workers have been raised by 40-50 percent; and state subsidies on free meals for the factory and office workers employed by the public sector have grown by half.

"Undoubtedly, the transition from profound backwardness to progress demands time and effort in any country," the journal continues. "This holds true for Afghanistan, which in addition has come against large-scale and well-orchestrated outside intervention. One more important characteristic of the revolutionary process in Afghanistan is the fact that it is taking place in the country the majority of the population of which profess Islam. The reactionary forces inside the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and outside it are doing everything they can to incite hatred for the revolutionary government among the believers and to involve them in struggle against the existing regime. Every means is used to achieve this end, from threats and intimidation to patent lies. The enemies of the republic, including many Western capitalist media, deliberately misrepresent Afghan realities and never say a word about the respect shown by the authorities for the age-old traditions and values of the people of Afghanistan and their religious sentiments."

Touching upon the situation around Afghanistan, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS points out: "While holding forth on their 'concern' for the fate of the Afghan people, the U.S. authorities are in practice grossly violating international law by encouraging banditism and terrorism and by openly intervening in the internal affairs of other countries. They are trying to whip up tension not only around Afghanistan but in the whole of the region."

"The working people of Afghanistan are well aware that victory over the forces of counterrevolution, and progess in constructive work will not come of their own accord. These goals demand the complete mobilization of the forces of the entire people and also courage, staunchess and self-control. The support and solidarity shown by the Soviet Union, other socialist countries and the progressive forces of the world at large constitute a dependable guarantee of the victory of Revolutionary Afghanistan," the article in the Soviet journal stresses in conclusion.

GROMYKO SPEECH AT 10 MAY LUNCHEON FOR HUN SEN

PM121023 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 May 82 p 4

[TASS report under general heading "In an Atmosphere of Friendship and Complete Mutual Understanding"]

[Text] A.A. Gromyko gave a luncheon [10 May] in honor of Hun Sen, at which the ministers exchanged speeches.

Addressing the guest, A.A. Gromyko said:

We are gratified by the positive processes that are gathering speed in the People's Republic of Kampuchea and its achievements in restoring and developing the economy and all spheres of public life. Any plans to use various counterrevolutionary groupings to change the situation in your country are utopian. Nobody can resurrect the political corpses of Pol Pot, Ieng Sary and their henchmen.

The Soviet people are confident that under the leadership of the People's Revolutionary Party the Kampuchean people will successfully build a new, prosperous Kampuchea. Here they can continue to count on all-round assistance and support from the Soviet Union.

I would like to note with satisfaction that relations between our country and People's Kampuchea are being filled out with new content. A firm basis for such cooperation is provided by the agreements reached during the Soviet-Kampuchean talks at summit level in Moscow in 1980.

During today's exchange of opinions a number of topical international problems were touched on. The discussion confirmed our unity of views on these questions. The Soviet Union, together with People's Kampuchea and the other fraternal countries, is fighting to avert the threat of nuclear war and direct the course of events onto the path of detente and peace.

Of course, the struggle for a peaceful future for our planet is no easy matter. Experience confirms this. There is no limit to the fabrications that the militarists resort to in the attempt to whitewash their own policy, which runs counter to the people's vital interests, and justify their military preparations and the arms race that they have unleashed and are spurring on! Take, for instance, their inventions about the use of Soviet-made chemical weapons in Indochina. The authors of these inventions cannot conceal their own crimes in Indochina, where the consequences of the use of that barbaric type of weapon during the years of American aggression are still felt.

According to statistics which are far from complete, in South Vietnam alone more than 100,000 tons of chemical agents were used during the war. American chemical weapons were also used in Kampuchea, whose territory was subjected to merciless bombings by American aircraft from 1969 through 1975. Those who are now at the helm of U.S. policy and who have recently decided to launch the production of new types of chemical weapons cannot but know that.

But the peoples of the world, including the American people, have a growing understanding of the great dangers of a new spiral in the arms race, which is being whipped up by certain Western leaders, particularly the U.S. administration. This is clearly indicated by the scale of the antiwar movement in capitalist countries.

It is our common, important task to improve the situation in Asia, which the imperialists and those who align themselves with them would like to turn into a continent of dangerous, constantly fanned hotbeds of tension and conflict.

Our state's policy in Asia -- L.I. Brezhnev spoke of this quite clearly in Tashkent -- is, as it is on all the other continents, a policy of strengthening peace and firmly rebuffing the enemies of peace, a policy of peaceful cooperation with all who wish it, a policy of fraternal friendship with the countries of socialism, and a policy of solidarity with all forces of social progress and defense of the sovereign rights of all peoples, great and small.

It is this approach which forms the basis of our proposals on extending confidence-building measures to the Far East region and our views on the Persian Gulf, the Indian Ocean and relations with India, Japan, China and the ASEAN countries.

During today's talks we discussed the situation that is taking shape in Southeast Asia. Both sides noted that neither Washington nor Beijing wants peace and stability to be established in that part of the globe and that they consider it advantageous to themselves to maintain tension. The imperialists and their henchmen do not like the emergence in that region of a group of states that have chosen the path of progressive transformations, the path of peace and socialism. That is why they are opposed to allowing the new Kampuchea to take its rightful place in the United Nations.

The peoples of the three countries of Indochina have defeated aggressors with the support of the socialist states and all the world's progressive forces. They would have been able to channel all their forces and potential into the resolution of creative tasks long since, were it not for the new encroachments on their freedom, independence and peaceful labor by those who pursue hegemonist ambitions.

L.I. Brezhnev has repeatedly stated that the Soviet Union has never regarded the alienation between us and China as a normal phenomenon and has always displayed readiness to improve relations with China on the basis of mutual respect for each other's interests, noninterference in each other's affairs and mutual benefit.

Similar positions are held by other socialist countries, including the states of Indochina. Thus Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos have stated -- and have also stated jointly -- that they want to establish relations of good-neighborliness and cooperation with China. It is now up to the Chinese side -- precisely up to the Chinese side.

It is our conviction that the resolution of Southeast Asia's problems is above all a matter for the region's states themselves. There is no issue here that could not be resolved at the conference table. So the Soviet Union wholly shares and supports the peace-loving initiatives of our Kampuchean, Vietnamese and Lao friends, who are smoothing the way to the establishment of good-neighborliness between the states of Indochina and ASEAN, the normalization of the situation in Southeast Asia and the transformation of that region into a zone of peace.

By all appearances there is still a long way to go before lasting peace and good cooperation triumph on the Asian Continent. And peace in Asia means a peaceful life for 3/5 of mankind. This alone emphasizes the importance of efforts to turn Asia into a continent of peaceful cooperation. Nobody can deny that Kampuchea is already contributing to the best of its ability to the attainment of that noble goal.

Fraternal Kampuchea does not yet hold its legitimate place at various international forums. Unfortunately, its does not yet hold its place in the United Nations organization. This is all due to the intrigues of the imperialists and hegemonists and their accomplices. But its voice and its peace-loving policy ring out more loudly in the world than do the positions of certain states that do have places in the UN hall. A time will come -- will certainly come -- when Kampuchean representatives will take the place that belongs to them in the hall under the UN roof and their voice will be heard from there too.

But now our Kampuchean friends can march proudly along the path they have chosen both in the sphere of internal development and in external affairs. They have reason to follow that path with their heads held high and with confidence in the future.

The Soviet people wholeheartedly wish the Kampuchean people successes in strengthening national sovereignty and building the foundations of socialism.

KAMPUCHEA'S HUN SEN DEPARTS MOSCOW FOR KRASNODAR

LD111226 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Kampuchean Foreign Minister Hun Sen, who is in our country on an official visit, today left Moscow for Krasnodar. Before his departure the minister visited the Mausoleum of Vladimir Ilich Lenin and placed a wreath. A wreath was also placed at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in the Kremlin Wall.

JARUZELSKI CHAIRS POLISH GOVERNMENT SESSION

LD111054 Moscow TASS in English 1024 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Warsaw, 11 May, TASS -- The Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic has met here with Wojciech Jaruzelski in the chair. According to the PAP agency, the Council of Ministers considered the situation in the country in connection with the street disorders in some towns in the early days of May, and discussed decisions and steps to prevent attempts of disturbing the process of social-economic stabilisation. The Council of Ministers also discussed a complex of problems related to the introduction of economic reforms.

A statement by the press plenipotentiary of the Polish Government, distributed by the PAP agency, said that the disorders in Warsaw and some other towns were inspired and supported by Western subversive centres and organised by political gamblers, and directed against the process of stabilization in the country. The foundation of this process is common sense and tranquility, displayed by Polish society at the time of the street disorders. The overwhelming majority of the people are working conscientiously and displaying civic responsibility, understand that only labour and tranquility can create prospects for overcoming the crisis.

Seen against this background, the statement emphasizes, the propaganda actions of Western broadcasting stations are another clearly expressed attempt at aggravating the situation for the sake of interests alien to the Polish People's Republic. The government will continue its efforts aimed at the consolidation and defence of the interests of the Polish socialist state.

POLISH STATEMENT ON DISTURBANCES REPORTED

LD120754 Moscow TASS in English 0742 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] Warsaw, 12 May, TASS -- A statement by the Polish Government's commissioner for the press has been circulated here in connection with disturbances that took place in certain cities of Poland on May 1, 3 and 4. In Warsaw and Walbrzych, abortive attempts were made to disturb public order also on May 9. Measures based on the existing legislation were taken against violators of public order and those who instigated them. 211 persons were interned under the decree on the introduction of martial law.

It is said in the statement that Western radio-stations set themselves the aim of provoking, within the next few days, new anti-socialist actions in Poland and disrupting tranquillity and normal work, specifically at plants. All this is obviously part of a general plan to destabilise the situation in the Polish People's Republic. The Government will continue its efforts to protect the interests of socialist Poland.

TRUD NOTES KIRKLAND CALL FOR HARD LINE ON POLAND

PM111017 [Editorial Report] Moscow TRUD in Russian on 17 April carries on page 3 a 1,100-word Washington dispatch by correspondent A. Repin entitled "The Orbit of Hypocrisy." Repin reports demands by U.S. labor union bosses, especially the AFL-CIO's Kirkland, for a tougher White House line on Poland, specifically economic measures "to intensify Poland's economic difficulties."

EVENTS MARK CSSR LIBERATION, USSR TREATY DATES

Moscow Meeting 5 May

PM111353 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 May 82 p 4

[Excerpts] TASS -- The peoples of the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia are linked by bonds of firm friendship and all-round cooperation.

This was stated in Moscow on 5 May at a ceremonial meeting of representatives of the capital's working people devoted to the 37th anniversary of Czechoslovakia's liberation from the fascist aggressors and the 12th anniversary of the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and the CSSR. Taking part in the meeting were B.Ye. Sarkisov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; N.V. Talyzin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; leaders of a number of ministries and departments; military leaders and representatives of party, soviet and public organizations. A delegation of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Union (SCSP) headed by F. Sadek, member of the SCSP Central Committee, was present.

CSSR Ambassador's Reception

PM111309 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 May 82 p 4

[Text] TASS -- C. Lovetinsky, Czechoslovak ambassador to the USSR, held a reception on 6 May to mark the 37th anniversary of Czechoslovakia's liberation from the fascist invaders. The reception was attended by: B.Ye. Sarkisov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; N.V. Talyzin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; the heads of a number of ministries and departments; military leaders; and representatives of party, soviet and public organizations. The reception was also attended by a delegation of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Union (SCSP) headed by F. Sadek, member of the SCSP Central Committee.

OFFICIALS CONFER WITH BULGARIAN CULTURE CHIEF

Meeting With Demichev

PM111001 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 May 82 p 4

[Text] TASS -- P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, received G. Yordanov, candidate member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers and chairman of the Bulgarian Committee for Culture, on 5 May. During the talk, which passed in a cordial, comradely atmosphere, questions of the further deepening and multifaceted development of Soviet-Bulgarian cultural ties were discussed. D. Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR, was present at the talk.

Meeting With Zimyanin

PM111311 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 May 82 p 4

[TASS report: "Talk at CPSU Central Committee]

[Text] M.V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met with G. Yordanov, candidate member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers and chairman of the Bulgarian Culture Committee, on 6 May. Present at their talk, which took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere, were V.F. Shauro, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Culture Department, and D. Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR.

COMMENTARY ON EEC TRADE SANCTIONS AGAINST USSR

LD120916 Moscow TASS in English 0730 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] Moscow, 12 May, TASS -- West German circles have on the whole condemned attempts to cast aspersions on Soviet-West German trade and damage it, and want an end to attempts to interfere in their trade with the USSR, the newspaper SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA says in a dispatch from Bonn commenting on the so-called EEC "sanctions" against the Soviet Union.

"Still, the farce of the 'sanctions' did not go by without leaving an imprint on West Germany" the newspaper acknowledges. "It has to be admitted that its sponsors have in a certain measure succeeded in poisoning the business-like atmosphere of Soviet-West German cooperation and make some businessmen take a guarded attitude to deals with the Soviet Union. This especially refers to those firms which were only going to enter the Soviet market and at the time were considering the various pros and cons."

The newspaper notes that, at the heights of the clamorous "sanctions" campaign, Mr. Rodenstock chairman of the concern Salzgitter and president of the Union of German Industry, and Mr. Schneider, chairman of Krupp, accompanied by Chairman of the Monitoring Council Baiz and other leading West German industrialists, set a worthy example when they went on a business trip to Moscow.

"West German business circles took note also of the fact that at a time when the West is trying to poison the atmosphere of understanding and cooperation, the Soviet Union has made fresh peace initiatives and proposals. Leonid Brezhnev's speech in Tashkent met with broad response in business circles here."

IZVESTIYA CRITICIZES NORWEGIAN ROLE IN NATO

LD111754 Moscow TASS in English 1716 GMT 11 May 82

["By NATO's Logic" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 11 May, TASS -- The Pentagon seeks to turn Norway into its strategic springboard, directed against the USSR, to tie Norway strong to the NATO's dangerous plans which lead to destabilization of the situation in the north of Europe and the continents as a whole, the newspaper IZVESTIYA writes today, touching upon the place and role assigned to Norway within the framework of NATO military preparations.

"The Pentagon's officials have long been looking closely at Norway which they consider as the support of the NATO's northern flank. Being not pleased with Norway's NATO obligations, Washington is trying to tie that country closer to its miliaristic plans. Alternating methods of direct pressure with campaigns of intimidation with 'the threat from the East,' the United States got Oslo's consent for the use of Norwegian airdromes for landing and refuelling of American spy planes. An agreement was also signed on stock-piling on Norwegian territory American heavy armaments, intended for the Marines brigade which is to be airlifted to Norway from the overseas, if it 'seemed' to Washington that a 'crisis situation' arose in that area."

Meanwhile, the newspaper stresses, the defence minister of Norway "contrary to logic and reason, everywhere advocates the build up of the NATO's military potential, expansion of Norway's participation in the NATO's military functions. Echoing Washington, the minister everywhere resorts to hackneyed fabrications on 'military superiority' of the USSR and the Warsaw Treaty member-countries.

"The Norwegian defence minister," IZVESTIYA stresses, "unfortunately, is not single-handed in conducting this campaign, he is actively supported both by his party colleagues, staff members of his ministry and representatives of Norway's Armed Forces."

"The ways of strengthening security of the European north run not through stepping up military activity, but through expansion of all-round cooperation and the joint quest for decisions that would help keep that region outside the sphere of tension and conflicts. The reasonability of such an approach to problems of security of the north of Europe is obvious, and it is a pity that they in Oslo prefer NATO's dangerous logic to the logic of reason," IZVESTIYA writes in conclusion.

NEW NATO BASE TO BE ESTABLISHED IN LUXEMBOURG

LD101258 Moscow TASS in English 1201 GMT 10 May 82

[Text] Luxembourg, 10 May, TASS -- A new military base of NATO is to be set up in Sassenheim in the territory of Luxembourg. According to the Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the base is to be built within the framework of an agreement between Luxembourg and the USA. Various types of military hardware, armament and equipment are to be stationed at the base.

According to NATO plans, the military base in Sassenheim is to serve as a reserve one for U.S. troops in Western Europe.

USSR-FINNISH DISARMAMENT CONSULTATIONS REPORTED

PM111531 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 May 82 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Consultations Held"]

[Text] Soviet-Finnish consultations on questions of the forthcoming second UN General Assembly special session on disarmament have taken place in the USSR Foreign Ministry. Taking part in the consultations on the Finnish side were K. Korhonen, under secretary of state at the Finnish Foreign Ministry; E. Hallama, Finnish ambassador to the Soviet Union; and E. Rajakoski, Finnish Foreign Ministry special envoy: On the Soviet side were V.F. Petrovskiy, member of the USSR Foreign Ministry collegium, and other USSR Foreign Ministry executives.

K. Korhonen and his companions were received by G.M. Korniyenko, USSR first deputy foreign minister.

CPSU DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR IRISH CP CONGRESS

LD111656 Moscow TASS in English 1648 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Moscow, 11 May, TASS -- A CPSU delegation, led by Leonginas Shapetis, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Lithuania, left for Dublin today at the invitation of the Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Ireland to attend the 18th Congress of the Communist Party of Ireland.

VELIOTES' SPEECH REVEALS U.S. MIDEAST POLICY

LD112354 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1251 GMT 11 May 82

[By correspondent Nikolay Pakhamov]

[Text] Washington, 11 May (TASS) -- The U.S. expansion into the Middle East and Persian Gulf is designed to serve Washington's imperialist aims: plundering the national wealth of the states in the region, enslaving them economically and strengthening the United States' strategic position. This has been confirmed once again by a speech made in Congress by N. Veliotes, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs. This high-ranking official of the State Department, who returned recently from a tour of a number of countries of the Arabian Peninsula, declared that American interests in this region "are of a long-term character and of growing importance" to Washington.

These "interests," as is evident from Veliotes' speech, embrace both the military and economic spheres. The assistant secretary of state declared that the Persian Gulf region is of "enormous strategic significance" and that events there exert a strong influence on the "ability" of the United States and its allies to "maintain world order."

The Reagan administration, as was indicated in Veliotes' speech, intends to expand the U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf and step up strategic cooperation with such countries as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates. The administration's policy toward this region, the assistant secretary of state stressed, "places fresh emphasis on the military aspects." We intend, he declared, to improve our ability to dispatch armed forces to the region, to perfect the command structure and to use military facilities on the territories of "friendly states." N. Veliotes also noted the "importance" of the U.S. naval presence in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean and the increase in American military support for a number of countries in the region.

The assistant secretary of state was obliged to acknowledge that there is "general disagreement" among the states of the Persian Gulf with American policy in the Middle East and with the so-called "Camp David process." This process, as we know, serves as a screen for Israel's expansionist, aggressive course, which it continues to pursue with Washington's support.

IZVESTIYA VIEWS ISRAELI SINAI WITHDRAWAL

PM111439 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 May 82 Morning Edition p 5

[Correspondent Ye. Korshunov report: "Camp David: The Conspirators Unmasked"]

[Text] Beirut -- Reports continue to come in from the Israeli-occupied Arab territories about stormy demonstrations, about Palestinians wounded, killed or arrested by Israeli punitive squads and about the state of martial law imposed by the occupiers in major cities on the West Bank of the Jordan and in the Gaza Strip.

"Down with Camp David!" "No to autonomy talks!" "We do not want to pay with our destiny for a handful of Sinai sand!" -- these are the slogans with which Palestinian demonstrators are taking to the streets today in Nablus and Al-Birah, Talkarm and Gaza, Ramallah and Bir-Zayt.... That is the Palestinian people's answer to the completion of the so-called first stage of the Camp David deal -- the withdrawal of the Israeli troops and colonists from the Sinai Peninsula.

"The evacuation from Sinai is the 'red line' beyond which there will be no more concessions!" Israeli Defense Minister A. Sharon stated.

He warned that from now on Tel Aviv will become still more actively engaged in the colonization of the occupied territories. Tel Aviv has also announced that in the next 3 years the number of colonists on the occupied territories will increase by 50,000. Once again, Palestinian lands will be confiscated to accommodate them.

All this confirms in practice the repeated statements by the Tel Aviv rulers about their intention to fully colonize and subsequently annex the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip. Such statements were again heard in Tel Aviv in connection with the resumption -- planned for May -- of talks on so-called Palestinian autonomy, which is resolutely rejected by the Palestinian people as a form of perpetuation of the Israeli occupation.

The Beirut press, analyzing Israel's departure from Sinai, reached the general conclusion that this departure not only failed to resolve the fundamental problems of a Near East settlement but actually exacerbated them. Tel Aviv, demagogically expatiating on how it has "already made sacrifices for the sake of peace," intends from now on to seek to implement its annexationist plans still more sutbbornly, tc pursue a still tougher policy of suppressing the Palestinian people's national liberation struggle and to wage a still more unbridled terrorist campaign against the PLO.

The Tel Aviv rulers make no secret of their intenton of making a strike against southern Lebanon and occupying it on the pretext of defending their own borders. And while Palestinians are today saying bitterly that the Israeli colonialists left Sinai to establish themselves on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip, the Lebanese believe that Tel Aviv gave up Sinai so as to be able to seize southern Lebanon, too.

Here the Arab public notes the emergence of dangerous new elements in the Camp Daivd plans and a threatening new development in these plans. Thus the Palestinians news agency WAFA has published an editorial commentary saying, in particular, that Israel will be replaced in Sinai by an "American presence." The Americans will also ensure their "presence" in other parts of Egypt, in particular on the bases at Qina -- 450 km south of Cairo -- and Ras-Banas (on the Red Sea), and also through regular visits by the U.S. 6th Fleet and maneuvers by the Rapid Deployment Forces, more than 1,000 of whose soldiers are already deployed in Sinai as part of the "multinational" forces. "Nobody can yet name the full price paid by Egypt and the Arab nation for Israel's withdrawal from Sinai," the WAFA commentary says. "This price will increase every day and will be the highest price a people and a nation have ever paid for the illusion of the return of lands seized from them."

The Syrian press is also clearly exposing the dangerous U.S. and Israeli plans in the Near East. Syrian newspapers call Israel's withdrawal from Sinai a "fiction" and stress that this step is in fact a new stage in the Camp David deal -- namely, the U.S. occupation of Arab territory and the creation of American military bases there.

The price of the Sinai sand is causing increasing concern to Arab countries. The Kuwait TIMES newspaper expresses fears that the American soldiers in Sinai will be used as a strike group of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces. The Saudi newspaper AN-NADWAH calls on Egypt to tear up the Camp David accords, which, it says, serve as a cover for Israel's annexationist policy.

The public in Arab countries is today calling for the new American-Israeli plans in the Near East to be met with unity of actions by the Arab peoples and a strengthening of support for the Palestinian people's struggle for their legitimate rights, including the right to create their own independent state. The words from the recent TASS statement to the effect that the "Sinai operation" has nothing in common with the task of establishing a just and lasting peace in the Near East are being cited increasingly frequently.

The content of that statement was widely reported and is being commented on by information organs in Arab countries. The Arab public greeted with utmost seriousness the Soviet warning that the Israeli occupation of Sinai has been replaced by American occupation, that the United States has created an outpost for itself for direct interference in the affairs of the Near East and neighboring regions and that the Camp David plans have today taken on a form which constitutes a still greater threat to the Arab peoples' vital interests.

The Camp David conspirators have again been exposed today as enemies of the Arab peoples pursuing selfish goals in the Near East and ready for any adventure for the sake of these goals.

At the same time all peace-loving forces note with satisfaction the consistent, clear stance of the Soviet Union, which advocates a solution of the problem ensuring that the Near Eastern peoples have a lasting, just peace guaranteeing the Arabs the restoration of the Israeli-occupied lands to them and guaranteeing the Palestinian people the opportunity to implement their legitimate rights to create their own independent state.

'CIRCLES IN CAIRO' SPREAD 'SOVIET THREAT' MYTH

LD072252 Moscow TASS in English 2111 GMT 7 May 82

[Text] Moscow, 7 May, TASS -- "To camouflage American hegemonistic designs, certain circles in Cairo are spreading the myth of 'a Soviet threat'," writes today the newspaper IZVESTIYA. The newspaper draws attention to the interview given to the Cairo weekly AHIR SA'AH by Defence Minister of Egypt Abu Ghazalah who ascribed to the Soviet Union the desire to establish control over oil deposits of the Persian Gulf and Saudi Arabia. By Sadat's anti-Soviet pattern, Abu Ghazalah said that the USSR allegedly draws benefit from tension in the Middle East and threatens Egyptian interests.

"The consistent and principled struggle of the land of the soviets for peace in the Middle East, the Soviet Union's proposal to ensure security of the Persian Gulf are well-known in the Arab world. The absurdity of fabrications printed in AHIR SA'AH is obvious", the newspaper stresses.

"Sadat in his time, pressed by Washington into the Camp David clutches, used the myth of 'a threat from the north' to conceal the truth from his people -- namely the penetration into Egyptian soil of the American military at the disposal of which, as is remembered, the former president of the Arab Republic of Egypt put the land, the air space and territorial waters of Egypt. The U.S. administration under the pretext of 'a Soviet threat' launched a total offensive to the Middle East with a view of establishing its military-political diktat there."

The newspaper stresses that the myth of "a Soviet threat" was released for yet another time to conceal from the Egyptian people the truth on why American occupationists came to the Sinai Peninsula in place of Israeli [word indistinct] it is clear to everyone that in accordance with the Camp David agreements and in line with the text of the accord on formation of the so-called multinational force on the Sinai the American military will not withdraw from the strategic springboard held by it, even if it is asked by Cairo to do so. In other words, Washington got on the Sinai a military base for use for an indefinite period of time, while a quite real but not imaginary, additional threat to peace and stability arose in the Middle East.

PRAVDA CITES SYRIA'S AL-ASAD ON TIES WITH USSR

PM111331 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 May 82 p 4

[TASS report: "On Principles of Equality"]

[Text] Beirut, 8 May -- In an interview with the Lebanese weekly AL MUSTAQBAL, Syria's president H. al-Assad has stated that Syria and the Soviet Union are linked by strong ties. The Soviet Union, the president said, maintains relations with us based on principles of equality and does not interfere in our internal affairs. In relation to our country it occupies the position of a sincere friend, condemns the aggression launched against the Arabs and Israel's occupation of our lands and supports our struggle for their liberation. The USSR advocates the satisfaction of the Palestinian peoples legitimate rights including their right to establish their own independent state.

H. al-Assad contrasted the military assistance given to Syria by the Soviet Union in the name of defending its independence with the unlimited U.S. supplies of arms to the Israeli aggressors whose aim is to maintain Tel Aviv's military superiority over the Arab states.

On the problem of Egypt's return to the Arab countries' fold, H. al-Asaad noted that Egypt's withdrawal from their ranks was connected with Camp David and its return must be conditional upon breaking off these agreements.

On the role played in the country's life by the Communist Party of Syria, H. al-Assad noted that the Communist Party of Syria is a progressive patriotic party belonging to the National Progressive Front. Communists, he stressed, are participating in the government's work. Relations among the front's various participants are good and fruitful cooperation has continued among them for many years.

IRAN, IRAQ DESCRIBE BATTLE FOR KHORRAMSHAHR

LD120938 Moscow TASS in English 0919 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] Tehran, 12 May, TASS -- A fierce battle is raging on the Iranian-Iraqi front for the Iranian port city of Khorramshahr. According to the Joint Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces, the fighting is especially fierce to the west and north-west of the city where the Iranian troops are five kilometers from the city's suburbs. Over the past 24 hours Iranian troops downed five Iraqi combat planes in the vincinity of Khorramshahr.

Baghdad, 12 May, TASS -- According to the Iraqi news agency INA, in the past 24 hours Iraqi troops destroyed 106 Iranian tanks in the region of Khorramshahr. 6,000 Iranian servicemen were killed and wounded. Iraqi planes made 206 combat sorties pounding at the positions of the Iranian troops to the north and the west of the city.

ILICHEV LEADS DELEGATION ON AFRICAN VISIT

Talks in Tanzania, Zambia

LD111944 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 11 May 82

[Excerpts] The Soviet state delegation's visit to Zambia and earlier to Tanzania showed the close coincidence of the three countries' views on many international issues. The talks focus on such issues as anti-imperialist and antiracist struggles in the south of Africa and cooperation between the Soviet Union and East African countries in scientific, technological and cultural fields. During the talks the leader of Tanzania and Zambia spoke in favor of stronger ties with the Soviet Union in a wide variety of fields. The visit of the Soviet delegation is no doubt a big step in this direction.

Remarks by Kaunda

PM120755 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 May 82 p 4

[TASS report: "Meetings in Lusaka"]

[Text] Lusaka, 4 May -- L.F. Ilichev, USSR deputy foreign minister and head of the Soviet delegation visiting here, met today with Zambian President K. Kaunda and conveyed to him a personal message from L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

During the friendly talk, K. Kaunda noted that the delegation had arrived in Zambia at a very crucial moment, not just for southern Africa but for the whole world. The Soviet Union's appeals for the strengthening of the progressive forces' unity and for preserving peace are extremely important. For this reason, the president said, Zambia rates highly the USSR's activity in this sphere. He asked that gratitude be conveyed to L.I. Brezhnev personally, to the CPSU Central Committee and to the Soviet Government for the responsible approach to questions of preserving peace and averting war.

Peace is indivisible, the president stressed, and we want it to exist everywhere and thus Zambia will support all efforts aimed at achieving peace by means of disarmament and peaceful coexistence.

The president supported the proposal for a meeting between L.I. Brezhnev and U.S. President R. Reagan. Here he recalled L.I. Brezhnev's comment on the need for good preparations for such a meeting and for it to be held in a third country.

Zambia and the Soviet Union, K. Kaunda stated, have an identical approach to many problems. We believe that there will be no peace on earth until all forms of evil engendered by international exploitative capital have been destroyed. Zambia is loyal to the cause of the struggle against colonialism, neocolonialism, racism, fascism, Zionism and apartheid.

Touching on the situation in Africa, the Zambian president pointed out the need to strengthen the unity of the continent's states within the OAU framework.

Today the delegation had talks at the Zambian United National Independence Party [UNIP] Central Committee and met with (R. Kamanga), member of the UNIP Central Committee and chairman of the Central Committee's Political and Legal Committee. There was also a meeting with A.G. Zulu, secretary of state for defense and security.

ANGOLAN PARLIAMENTARY DELFGATION ARRIVES IN USSR

LD112002 Moscow TASS in English 1907 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Moscow, 11 May, TASS -- A delegation of the People's Assembly of Angola headed by member of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Workers' Party, First Secretary of the People's Assembly Bernardo de Sousa today arrived in Moscow for an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

FISHING VESSEL SINKS NEAR CHILEAN COAST

PY120223 Asuncion Teledifusora Paraguaya in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] A Soviet fishing factory ship has sunk approximately 600 miles west of the Chilean coast, off the port of Iquique, in northern Chile. There was no immediate information on whether the members of the crew were rescued. This vessel had been sending SOS messages since Sunday.

U.S. GUANTANAMO EXERCISES HEIGHTEN TENSION

PM111425 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 May 82 p 5

[Correspondent P. Bogomolov dispatch: "On Other People's Land"]

[Text] Havana, 4 May -- The shadow of the U.S. C-141 military transport aircraft slid over the mirror-like surface of the bay, over the coastal brushwood and halted on the runway. Having jumped from the open fuselage, the Marines split into groups and took up defensive positions against an imaginary enemy. Meanwhile, the outline of another aircraft appeared over the surrounding hills and five U.S. Navy warships approached the coast. The dawn's silence was shattered by curt commands and the crackle of machinegun fire.

Thus began the Pentagon's latest maneuvers on territory snatched from a sovereign state. Using the Guantanamo base, Washington is continuing to worsen relations with the Western Hemisphere's first socialist country and is whipping up tension throughout the Caribbean.

Like last year, the present maneuvers off the Cuban coast are part of large-scale NATO naval exercises. This time they are being conducted by the Pentagon's new regional command at Key West (Florida) whose zone embraces the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific coast of Central America. The name of these dangerous games is Ocean Venture-82. Taking part in them are 45,000 servicemen, 350 aircraft of various types including B-52 strategic bombers as well as 60 ships and major Rapid Deployment Forces.

While this whole armada is "practicing" firing and landings, U.S. propaganda is inventing all kinds of pretexts to justify the latest outburst of militarist fever. Matters have reached the point where the command of the U.S. base at Guantanamo stated on local television that it is a question of rehearsing evacuation measures in the event of...a Cuban attack on the United States. In that case it is no crime to carry out the emergency evacuation of a few hundred employees and officers' wives. What a moving defense against a supposed threat!

...We stood beside Lt Col Angel Rodriguez of Cuba's Revolutionary Armed Forces at the top of the Three Stones hill. On the other side they were rehearsing the rout of some and the desperate resistance of other participants in the Pentagon spectacular. But on this side there was the calm, the restraint and the firmness of the Cuban border guards, whose posts and patrols have not been reinforced. Nor is there any buildup of forces since the island of freedom invariably advocates the peaceful solution of all, even the most acute, international questions.

In Guantanamo you clearly sense the confident tread of Cuba's second 5-year plan. Even imperialism's most sophisticated provocation cannot succeed in upsetting its rhythm.

AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENTS FOR 10, 11 MAY REPORTED

LD110126 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 10 and 11 May. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

10 May

Mass grass cutting has begun in the steppe and foothill regions of north Osetiya. A yield of 350-400 quintals per hectare is planned for the main fodder crops: rape, clover and alfalfa. Sowing of cereals has been completed in Chardzhouskaya Oblast. (0100 GMT)

Kaliningradskaya Oblast machine operators are the first in the Non-Chernozem Zone to complete the sowing of early grain and spring crops. Potato planting is now being completed. (0430 GMT)

Over 150 mechanized potato teams have gone out into the fields of Kemerovskaya Oblast. Three hundred thousand hectares have been allotted to the crop there. (2204 GMT)

11 May

The planting of potatoes and sowing of flax and fodder crops have started in Udmurtskaya ASSR. Irrigation of the fields has started in Kirgizia. Waters from the Orto-Tokoy Reservoir, which has a capacity of 500 million cubic meters, are being used to irrigate the Chu Valley, reaching it via the 150-km-long Chu Canal. Orto-Tokoy water is used for irrigating sugar beet plantations and winter cereal crops. One million hectares are under irrigation in the republic, and more than 90 percent of horticultural produce is grown on these lands. (0100 GMT)

Half the sugarbeet area has been sown in Voronezhskaya Oblast. (0104 GMT)

Turkmenia is ready to start harvesting winter wheat and barley from around 85,000 hectares. In Penzenskaya Oblast more than 700,000 hectares have been sown to early spring crops. In Mariyskaya ASSR farmers have begun potato planting on an area of 30,000 hectares. (0204 GMT)

Chuvashskaya ASSR has completed the sowing of grain crops. Orenburgskaya Oblast has begun sowing spring crops on the fourth million hectares. In Ryazanskaya Oblast mass potato planting is under way on 94,000 hectares. (0400 GMT)

Corn sowing is in progress in Saratovskaya oblast; the crops will cover about 500,000 hectares. The sowing of corn on silo is the preferred method. (0430 GMT)

The sowing campaign is gaining momentum in Kazakhstan. As the republican Central Statistical Administration reported today, the republic's sovkhozes and kolkhozes have already completed sowing on 6 million hectares of arable land. Machine operators are sowing 350,000 hectares under spring crops each day, mainly cereal grains -- barley and wheat. In all, Kazakhstan farmers must sow around 30 million hectares of spring crops. Machine operators in Uralskaya Oblast are carrying out the sowing with speed. Spring crops have already been sown on 80 percent of the area to be covered. More than half of the grain crop area has been sown on sovkhozes and kolkozes in Aktyubinskaya Oblast. Mass sowing is in progress in Semipalatinskaya Oblast. (0500 GMT)

Sowing is in full swing in Uzbekistan. It has been completed in Mamanganskaya, Surkhandarinskaya and Tashkentskaya Oblasts. Half the area allocated to rice has been sown in the main rice-growing areas of the republic -- the (Karakalpak) and (?Khorezmskaya) Oblasts. In Uzbekistan as a whole rice has been sown on 70,000 hectares, about 60 percent of the planned area. (0730 GMT)

Sowing has been completed in Ryazanskaya grain fields. Early grain crops have been sown on almost 700,000 hectares. (1000 GMT)

Farms of Irkutskaya Oblast have begun large-scale sowing of grain crops. This year they are to sow grain, pulse and fodder crops on 1.3 million hectares. (1230 GMT)

The RSFSR Central Statistical Administration reports that spring crops have beensown on 34.5 million hectares in the republic. This is nearly 42 percent of the plan. Thus, last year's rate of sowing has been considerably improved upon. The large increase in the extent of fields already sown happened last week. Pulse crops occupy nearly 2.4 million hectares -- nearly 500,000 hectares more than by this time last year. Rural machine operators are planting and sowing sugarbeet, sunflower and other industrial crops. At the same time they are being grown on large areas using industrial technology this year, that is, without manual labor. Optimum times have been reached for planting potatoes and vegetables in the Nonchernozem Zone and other regions of the Russian Federation. Mass work is being carried out in sowing corn, lupine, grasses and other fodder crops. (1800 GMT)

VUKOVICH VIEWS UKRAINE BEET HARVESTING PROBLEMS

PM111509 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 April 1982 Morning Edition carries on page 2 a 1,500 word article by special correspondent V. Vukovich entitled "A Conveyor Lacking an Important Component..." The article describes the beet harvesting situation in the Ukraine, deploring the fact that for want of a concerted effort there is no suitable beet top removal and loading machinery to go with the KS-6 beet harvesting combine. Vukovich says there have been rumors the existence of beet top removers and loaders powerful enough to match the KS-6 but the situation has been slow to change. The article accuses USSR Gosplan and the USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building of ignoring the fact that the Ukraine needs loading facilities, not more and more small-capacity combines.

The article concludes by saying that the republic's farms have been promised tens of thousands of new loading units by the end of the present 5-year plan and reemphasizing the fact that beet growers still lack an integrated complex of machinery.

USTINOV ADDRESSES ALL-ARMY PARTY CONFERENCE

LD111726 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Comrade Ustinov, Politburo member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of defense, delivered a report to the participants of the all-army conference of secretaries of party organizations. After being warmly greeted by the participants, Comrade Ustinov said, among other things:

[Begin recording] Comrades, allow me on your behalf to cordially thank the party Central Committee, the Central Committee Politburo and Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally for the warm words of greetings addressed to our conference. Allow me to express to them profound gratitude for the constant concern for the Armed Forces. [applause]

We view the greetings from the CPSU Central Committee as an order from the party to continue worthily to fulfill our sacred duty in defending the socialist fatherland. Communists and all soldiers of our glorious Armed Forces assure the Central Committee that they will fulfill this order with honor. [applause]

Comrades, all-army conferences of secretaries of party organizations are held by the decision of the party Central Committee and are major events in the life and activity of the army and navy. The CPSU Central Committee ascribes to them an important role in studying topical questions of military construction, mobilization of army and navy communists, and all Soviet soldiers for the successful fulfillment of the tasks issued to the Armed Forces by the party.

Nine years have passed since the previous conference. This was a period of great deeds and achievements by the party and people, a period of the further all-round progress of Soviet society. It was marked by such events of enormous historic significance as the 25th and 26th CPSU Congresses and the adoption of the new USSR Constitution, which enshrined the great gains of advanced socialism. Over those years there was a further strengthening of the inviolable unity of the Soviet Union. The cohesion of the working people of our country has become even closer around the Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee, headed by that outstanding party and state figure of today, Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. [applause] Finding himself in the highest party and state posts, Leonid Ilich is carrying out truly titanic work in strengthening the economic and defence might of our motherland, in consolidating its international positions and prestige, in maintaining peace on earth. [applause]

Our adherence to the cause of peace is unshakeable. However, the USSR's consistent love of peace is not a sign of weakness. It does not exclude by any means, but on the contrary presupposes constant concern for the country's security. This harsh necessity is dictated by the growth of the threat of war on the part of the imperialist state. The Soviet Union has even and will continue to take the necessary measures to maintain at the required level its defense capability, fighting power and combat readiness of the Armed Forces. [applause]

Brought up by the Communist Party in the spirit of boundless loyalty to the motherland and the people, the Soviet Armed Forces have everything necessary for a successful fulfillment of their mission. They act as a reliable barrier on the path of aggressive aspirations of imperialism; they are the most important factor in ensuring peace. [applause]

Comrades, for Soviet people there is nothing more dear than the happiness and security of our great motherland. By tireless labor everything necessary is being created for ensuring the reliable defense capability of the country and the all-round development of the army and navy. The party and state, as Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said, not for a single day loses sight of the question of strenghening the defense might of the country and its Armed Forces.

The party, its Central Committee and Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally give special significance to ensuring the high combat readiness of the Armed Forces. Combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces is being perfected in unity with the armies of fraternal socialist states. The cooperation of the armies of fraternal socialist states is imbued with the spirit of internationalism based on the principles of equality, mutual respect and sovereignty.

Comrades! In the steadfast raising of the combat readiness of the Armed Forces and in improving the education of the personnel, a most important role belongs to the primary party organizations. They are coping with this role. An absolute majority of primary party organizations are organizationally and ideologically cohesive collectives and are the leading political force of the army and navy.

Our party regards the further intensification of the influence of party organizations in all aspects of the life of the army and navy as one of the bases of Soviet military construction. This is called forth by the increased social responsibility of our Armed Forces for the defense of the new society, and the complicated and responsible nature of the tasks facing them in the present military-political situation.

Comarades, the party has placed on us, the communists of the Armed Forces, the responsibility for maintaining the army and navy in permanent combat readiness. To be always and in everything at the height of this responsibility is a matter for our party honor. [applause]

Allow me, on your behalf to assure the party Central Committee, the Politburo and personally Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev that the party organization and political organs in close unity with the commanders will continue actively and persistently to implement the policy of the CPSU in the army and navy, and to work tirelessly to implement the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress to raise the combat readiness of the Armed Forces and ensure a reliable protection for the state interests of our homeland. [applause] [end recording]

Tomorrow the conference will continue its work.